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Revising Anti-Terrorism Act will require national co-operation



PATRICK ROSS

If there's a standard cliché when it comes to matters of overzealous national security, it is, without a doubt, that of Big Brother from George Orwell's 1984. Hopefully such references will be put to rest somewhat now, however, as the Conservative government's bid to renew anti-terrorism legislation was defeated on Tuesday.

Liberal house leader Ralph Goodale held a press conference the day before, where he berated Prime Minister Stephen Harper for his support of the controversial Anti-Terrorism Act, which created new police powers and amended Canadian laws in 2001 under his own party's power. Paradoxically, Goodale also accepted credit for his party, noting that after 9/11, "[t]he Liberal government of the day invested some \$10 billion to strengthen public safety and national security agencies and activities. We created Canada's first comprehensive department of public safety and Canada's first formal national security policy."

In the end, Goodale promotes his party as innovators of security policy while simultaneously denouncing those security policies. Here he invokes the spectre of Big Brother, suggesting that Harper's support of the Liberals' anti-terrorism legislation is "only further justification of real concern among

Canadians about the potential misuse of anti-terrorism laws in the hands of this Conservative government."

It seems an awful lot like the ludicrous, "Soldiers with guns. In our cities. In Canada" ad that the Liberals were forced to pull from the airwaves during the 2005/06 election, and for good reason—both examples seek to exploit the political moral capital that can be generated by portraying an opponent as a tyrant-in-waiting.

Behind all the Liberals' posturing and supposed defence of human rights lurks a spectre of their own: the presence of the party whip.

It also ignores the fact that the Liberals instituted the Anti-Terrorism Act themselves under a majority government. The five detainees held under the controversial security certificates—Mohamed Harkat, Hassan Almrei, Adil Charkaoui, Mahmoud Jaballah and Mohammad Mahjoub—were all held under certificates signed by Liberals. Three of them continue to be held. The Liberals themselves were the victims of unwarranted controversy when Holocaust denier and terrorist collaborator Ernst Zundel was held under a security certificate until deported.

Very little remains known about the detentions of the "Secret Trial Five." Almrei and Jaballah have both been

denied bail, while Mahjoub, Harkat and Charkaoui have been released on strict conditions. While the Zundel case shows us that security certificates fulfill a justifiable function for Canadian security, there's no question that some reform is in order. This was firmly established by the Supreme Court when it ruled that refusing the accused access to evidence is unconstitutional. Fair enough. But whether the outright abolition of the certificates on Tuesday was justified, this matter is undeniably in need of reform.

Harper has proposed as much, noting that the Supreme Court has "laid out for Parliament a pretty clear road map on how to rectify the legislation so it can continue to sustain the security-certificate regime." For their part, the Liberals pledged that the party would "work tirelessly with the Conservative government to find reasonable and effective improvements to the anti-terrorism laws of Canada."

However, behind all the Liberals' posturing and supposed defence of human rights lurks a spectre of their own: the presence of the party whip. Liberal MP and Chief Opposition Whip Karen Redman confirmed recently that she would be enforcing party discipline, stating she "will know where [her colleagues] are, and how they will vote."

One can't help but wonder about the principles of a party that would seek to defeat its own anti-terrorism legislation, still claim credit for it and yet still play the Big Brother card within its own caucus. But when it comes to matters of national security, one thing is clear: co-operation should come before partisan politics.

Pets just aren't worth the risk



ANDREW NEWBORN

"Anthrozoology.org suggests that there are 'many psychological benefits animal companionship can give us, including providing security for the anxious, companionship for the lonely and status symbols for the image conscious.' All of which I interpret as 'animals are crutches for the weak minded.'"

You've seen it before: someone comes into contact with a domesticated animal, and they explode into a high-pitched, cutesy-voiced tirade about the little critter. They fawn over it, pet it, rub it and cast little bits of personality onto it ("You're a good boy, aren't you? Oh yes you are!"). I'm sure that almost everyone has seen hundreds of different cats and dogs in their lives, yet somehow for some it's a time-stopping orgasmic bliss every single time. But you can't do anything but roll your eyes, because saying a word of protest would cast you into the realm of social leper.

For me, this alone justifies banning pets in Canada, but there's a myriad of other reasons as well. Even the most responsible owners can't control their pets all of the time. For example, being chased by runaway dogs can be terrifying, as once happened to me. I don't know what kind they were—I just don't care enough about the various human-engineered pseudo-species to know—but they were large, vicious and angry. My youth has been filled with rogue cats shitting in my parents' yard, and I anticipate much the same thing once I have a place of my own.

Of course, it's not just pet owners that are the issue; animals themselves have inherent problems that make them unbearable to share a society with. Like many, I suffer from pet allergies, and it makes visiting other people's houses difficult. You never know if you're going to find their home infested with rampaging cats or slow-moving dogs, all bent on attacking with dander rather than teeth. Dogs and birds can also be an extreme annoyance just with their incessant noise-making.

The reasons for actually owning a pet are entirely lost on me, without even considering the cost and responsibility associated with pet ownership. Anthrozoology.org suggests that there are "many psychological benefits animal companionship can give us, including providing security for the anxious, companionship for the lonely and status symbols for the image conscious." All of which I interpret as "animals are crutches for the weak minded."

For a person to suggest that they want an animal for their own well-being is similar to a person declaring that they would like a husband or wife—anyone will do, really—just to feel better about him or herself. After all, a person who

gets married hopefully doesn't do it for the psychological benefits.

I can't help but wonder what the quality of life is like for the average pet. Is a dog that stares at the front door all day waiting for the return of its owner really having that great of a time? Perhaps well behaved pets are simply living with a collective case of Stockholm Syndrome. Boredom must surely be an issue for a bird trapped in a cage or a dog whose daily highlights are eating, walking and shitting.

I suggest banning pet ownership to solve all of these issues. Start by outlawing pet sales by pet stores and breeders. Step up animal shelter efforts, and play fast and loose with their euthanasia policies. Eventually all of the animals currently in captivity will die off, and we can officially outlaw pets once and for all.

I'm not suggesting that anybody stop eating meat, or that we end cattle farming, or any of those other PETA-esque animal lover ideas. I'm all for raising animals for specific, utilitarian purposes—while preferably giving them a bit of room to run around—but keep them out of towns and cities. Things will surely be a cleaner and saner for it.

Cracking a cold case

When a giant corporation like Coca-Cola comes under scrutiny, the accusations fly fast and furious—but more often than not, they’re more myth than fact



ADAM GAUMONT

While the upcoming SU election will most likely revolve around the various candidates and their equally implausible suggestions for lowering tuition, the more important issue for many will be the Coke plebiscite. But the bad arguments that are sure to fly from both the Yes and No sides will make it hard for students to make an informed decision.

It’s been alleged by activist groups both on and off campus that Coke has been guilty of egregious human rights abuses, most notoriously in Colombia. To this end, the Students’ Union abides by an Ethical Business Partners policy, which states that “where alternatives exist in the industry the Students’ Union will not conduct business of any kind with companies that ... actively undermine or fail to respect basic human rights.” Clearly then, if Coke is or has been proven guilty of such abuses, our SU ought to sever any and all ties with the corporation, regardless of whatever fiscal shortfall may ensue.

That said, what little circumstantial evidence that’s been levied against Coca-Cola has been sensationalized and blown out of proportion by SAKCoke, Stop Killer Coke and others in an attempt to push their real agenda of anti-corporate activism, and should therefore be taken with an industrial-sized salt-lick at best.

It should be made clear at this point that in the past few years, workers at bottling plants subcontracted by Coca-Cola in Colombia (and owned by a Colombian company called *Bebidas y Alimentos*) have been threatened, kidnapped and in some cases killed by violent paramilitary groups in an attempt to dissuade unionization. But this is nothing new: since the 1960s,

Colombia has been marred by a brutal war between government soldiers, anti-government insurgents and illegal paramilitaries that has shed blood in nearly every corner of the country.

Since the mid-1980s alone, over 35 000 people—including 2500 union workers—have been killed in this ongoing battle; to think that an American corporation that has a few bottling subsidiaries in this country is playing a major role in this decades-old conflict would be laughable if it weren’t for the gravity of the situation.

And yet, in a country where only four per cent of all workers are unionized nationwide, 31 per cent of Coke workers in Colombia are unionized—the same proportion of Coke employees that are unionized worldwide.

It’s precisely this corporate nature that anti-Coke activists despise so much—and this is what’s really at issue when they encourage campuses to ban Coke’s products.

But I’m not going to be Coke’s PR monkey—you can look this stuff up for yourself. Because let’s face it: Coke is a business, and they want to make money—indeed, as a corporation, they’re legally obligated to earn a return for their shareholders. As such, the head honchos in Atlanta probably wouldn’t really care one way or another for the well-being of their Colombian plant workers—that is, if it weren’t for the fact that happy employees are productive employees, whereas those who’ve been tortured and had their families kidnapped tend not to be.

Another reason it’s in Coke’s interest to play by the rules is that, as tempting as busting up unions and terrorizing employees for the sake of cheaper labour might seem, the burden of

legal fees, criminal investigations and having human rights groups breathe down your neck are (in that order) too great a deterrent to justify it. Instead, Coke will settle for merely very cheap unionized labour every time.

It’s precisely this corporate nature that anti-Coke activists despise so much—and this is what’s really at issue when they encourage campuses to ban Coke’s products. Tying Coke into the very serious issues of war and corruption in Colombia is just a convenient way of tearing down an otherwise invincible corporate monolith. Thanks in part to similar smear campaigns against Coke in India and elsewhere, there’s even a name for this type of behaviour now: “brandjacking.”

Of course, Coke isn’t blameless in all this; after all, they were slow to decry the crimes that did occur in Colombia, and have in certain cases only grudgingly co-operated in third-party reviews. Nor is their human rights record squeaky-clean: they recently reached a nine-figure settlement for a lawsuit in which it was found that workers at a Cleveland, Ohio plant were discriminated against based on their skin colour (a fact that made their recent Super Bowl half-time commercial linking themselves to a century of civil rights progress quite rich), while the company has also been under investigation for the level of pollutants found in their products in India as well.

But all the evidence in the Colombia investigations suggests that at worst, they’ve been guilty of negligence towards, and not active participation in, the heinous crimes in Colombia for which they stand accused.

If you want to kick Coke off campus because their products are unhealthy, because they have a monopoly, because they’re a subversive corporation or even because you just like Pepsi better, then go for it. But don’t believe the suggestion by labour activists like Ray Rogers that Coke is an evil paramilitary death-squad out to get the next poor sap that crosses the picket line—even if that’s what you wanted to hear.

THE DOPE ON COKE

Deaths of workers in Colombia

By far the biggest weapon that’s been wielded against Coke so far is its record in Colombia. But according to the results of the Florida civil court case filed against the beverage company, they’re far from directly implicated in the case. The court decided that it didn’t have jurisdiction to rule against them, due to the diffused nature of the corporation and its merely tangential connection to the case. That is, Coke hired a guy, who knew a guy, who worked for a guy who may or may not have paid some dudes to assault and possibly kill union workers. According to the report, “There is also a risk that vague, conclusory, and attenuated allegations will allow individuals ... and interest groups ... to engage in unwarranted international ‘fishing expeditions’ against corporate entities and to abuse the judicial process in order to pursue political agendas.” Touché.

Water usage in India

Multiple third-party reviews in the past

five years have concluded that severe and prolonged drought conditions, coupled by overuse of irrigation—and not Coke’s bottling practices—have been responsible for any depletion of water levels that has occurred there.

Coke has two main bottling stations in India: Kerala and Kaladera. At the former, irrigation was shown to account for 92.6 per cent of total water use, with industry using only 3.5 per cent; at the latter, the numbers were 81.3 per cent and 12.6 respectively.

Water quality in India

A study done on pesticide residue in Coca-Cola and Pepsi products bottled for sale in India showed that the harmful pesticide level in their soft drinks was well above what would be acceptable in the West. In fact, absolutely no pesticide residues were found in samples from USA-manufactured products.

It’s shameful that Coke would sell products overseas that would instigate a massive recall in North America just because they can get away with it. But

it’s also important to note that Coke is not alone in producing these filthy pops.

Health factors

Research has consistently shown that—surprise surprise—consuming a lot of sugar can lead to poor health, obesity and diabetes. Though it’s not really Coca-Cola’s fault that some people drink 2.5 litres of this junk per day, they certainly have an economic interest in our increased consumption. And allowing them exclusive access to campus is a bit like when your dad gave you the key to the liquor cabinet on your 18th birthday—not really illegal, but still likely to cause permanent bodily harm.

Big Cola is just as damaging to North American’s health as Big Tobacco; therefore, if the campus community isn’t grown up enough to decide whether they want to smoke or not, we certainly shouldn’t be allowing them to shove thousands of litres of Cola down their gullets.

Matt Frehner, Editor-in-Chief

Living in HUB is no walk in the parking lot



KENT CAMERON

Would you like to combine the convenience of living right on campus with the thrill of living somewhere close to hell? We here at the University of Alberta would like to offer you a HUB bachelor unit, where “home” is a relative term.

Act now to secure this palatial, no-bedroom apartment house-in-a-mall, situated right next to the largest open-air parking lot on campus. From the clunky fridge and rock-hard floor to the grease-laden hood of the oven and the mousetrap welcoming you in the kitchen, you’ll know you’ve arrived from the day you move in.

As the sun reflects off the puke-coloured curtains and the “fresh” air vent awakens you at 6am after your first night in the unit, you’ll come to question the old adage that you get what you pay for—\$561 a month for a furnished apartment, to be exact. You’ll soon come to accept, however, that you’ll damn well get whatever the hell we feel like giving you.

If it snows, you’ll wake up shortly after the crack of dawn to the metal-to-pavement melodies of the loudest snowplows on the face of the planet. Our snowplow operators spend hours at it, but they rarely finish the job in one go, so you can generally look forward to more of the same for several

days following a snowfall as well. We wouldn’t think of waiting until you’ve woken up or of plowing the evening before, because we want to put the sweet coda into your dreams.

Speaking of music, you’ll hear plenty of it through the paper-thin excuse for a door that separates your unit from your neighbour’s. But hey, if you’d like to comment on your neighbour’s selection of tunes, you can carry on a conversation with them without leaving the comfort of your apartment, just using a normal speaking voice.

Feel like having a shower? We’ve covered the bathroom ceilings with the cheapest paint imaginable so that you can watch it blister right before your eyes after a four-minute shower. Into art, are you? Simply take a tissue and wipe gobs of paint right off the ceiling after your shower. Just don’t keep your toothbrush too close.

Edmonton can get pretty cold in the winter and pretty hot in the summer, so we’ve taken the liberty of providing you with a centrally controlled heater and air vent—you’ll never need to worry about adjusting it yourself. We’ll decide when you’re hot or cold, thank you very much, because we know you *that* well. But just in case you would like the illusion of power, we’ve installed a “thermostat” in your room. It sure looks real—but, fiddle with it as you will, you may as well be adjusting the settings on your radio, because it has *absolutely no bearing whatsoever* on the actual temperature of your room.

See, we look out for the needs of our tenants. If your neighbour tells us there are bugs in her unit, the



FILE PHOTO: KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

AT LEAST THERE’S LOTS OF LIGHT There’s nothing like the smell of mall in the morning to get you on your way.

laughably named Ecopest will come out and drench her room in chemicals. They’ll put up a sign saying it’s safe to re-enter after several hours, but the stairwell will smell like fatal toxins for a week, just for good measure.

What’s that other smell, you ask? Well you like cars, don’t you? Don’t answer that. Everyone likes cars. That’s why we have the fresh air intake vent for your area of the building located right next to a high-traffic area outside. Feel like complaining? Instead, just breathe deep and pretend you’re at the motocross—

you might get a bit of a buzz! After all, we’re not called an institute of higher learning for nothing.

If, like the majority of students, you’re just attending school during the Fall and Winter terms, and if you plan on returning to the U of A the next year (it sometimes happens), then I encourage you to sign up for our fabulous “summer storage plan.” It’s a deal you just can’t miss. Just vacate your apartment at the end of April and pay us half your rent throughout the summer. In the case

of a bachelor’s unit, this amounts to a little over \$1000—surely pocket change for you students.

You won’t be allowed in the unit until September, except for a single two-hour visit per month, during office hours, but we’ll hold it for you when you do return—and we’ll let you keep your stuff there. Only \$1000 to store some junk for the summer and be guaranteed a unit for the coming year? “Wow, what a deal,” you might say. Silly little student—if only you knew.

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- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
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ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues – coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for the ARG, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

Remuneration: \$1182/month

For further information contact the VP Academic at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

Remuneration: \$1182/month

For further information contact the VP External 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 5:00 pm.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming, events and the volunteer management components of the Student Life portfolio as well as other duties. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

Remuneration: \$1182/month

For further information contact the VP Student Life at 492-4236

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, starting at 5:00 pm.

CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER

Reports to Students' Council and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.

Remuneration: \$4032.00 flat fee

For further information contact Catherine van de Braak, ea@su.ualberta.ca

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 29, starting at 5:00 pm.

ECOS (ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION OFFICE OF STUDENTS) DIRECTOR* (POSITION CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW)

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The Director of ECOS is responsible for researching, developing and implementing environmental programs for the Students' Union and students on Campus.

Remuneration: \$1400/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, starting at 7:00 pm.

OMBUDSERVICE DIRECTOR (2)*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The OmbudService is a joint U of A and SU service. The service is an advocate for fairness and due process and is responsible for information and referral on University policy, and protocols related to the academic and personal well being of all students.

Remuneration: \$1420/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, starting at 4:30 pm.

SAFEWALK DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Responsible for the overall operation of the Safewalk program, including working with other units on campus to improve and promote safety on campus. Excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.

Remuneration: \$1450/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 23, starting at 7:00 pm.

STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. In conjunction with the Distress Line, offers peer counseling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Must have at least one year of comparable peer-counseling experience.

Remuneration: \$1450/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 23, starting at 4:30 pm.

STUDENT GROUP SERVICES DIRECTOR*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Responsible for organizing and providing support to a diverse array of over 300 student groups on campus, including group registration, risk management, training and granting.

Remuneration: \$1400/month

For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Monday, March 26, starting at 4:30 pm.

***ALL DIRECTOR'S POSITIONS ARE 30 HOURS PER WEEK**



DRAWING A LINE IN THE SNOW

In a global event that spans 60 countries and two years, the International Polar Year will bring researchers together to tackle the important issues surrounding the planet's poles

by Robin Collum

Since back when the city was a staging area on the way to the Yukon gold rush, Edmonton has seen itself as the gateway to the North. The vision continued as Alberta became a pivotal player in resource development in northern Alberta and the territories. Now, a new chapter is underway in the province's relationship with Canada's North.

Edmonton and the University of Alberta are at the forefront of study of the physical and social issues facing the Arctic in this country. The Canadian Circumpolar Institute is at the U of A, and the University is known for the strength of its Arctic research. As such, it's only fitting that the U of A is where to find this country's headquarters for International Polar Year.

Physical and social scientists the world over are interested in studying the poles, and IPY is a valuable opportunity for them to collaborate and focus their research. IPY initiatives have also opened up sources of funding, which is always a struggle.

Beginning 1 March and running until March 2009, IPY is a group effort between governments, funding agencies and researchers around the world, aimed at exploring all facets of research in the Arctic and Antarctic. It's a global research event that will create opportunities for interdisciplinary co-operation among researchers from over 60 countries, spanning two years to let scientists extensively study the annual cycles.

In addition to being a chance for polar researchers to connect with each other, IPY will be a celebration of the importance of the Arctic and Antarctic. It hopes to raise global awareness of polar issues and leave a legacy of information and funding for future polar scientists.

This Polar Year will explore both the environmental and social issues facing the Poles, and work to educate ordinary people about the growing volumes of information.

"We're interested in both the biological and human dimensions," says Dr David Hik, Executive Director of the Canadian IPY Secretariat. "The two biggest issues facing the Arctic are climate change and the health and wellness of northern communities."

IPY is concerned with both the Arctic and the Antarctic, but Canadian involvement, understandably, is mostly aimed at what's happening in the North. Climate change is the issue on everyone's mind, because an increase in average

temperatures will have its biggest impact in the Arctic ecosystem.

"If you're in Brazil and the temperature goes from 30 to 34C, there'll be some effect, but it's still hot. In the Antarctic, it might go from -20 to -15C, but things are still frozen," says Hik. "In the Arctic, the temperature is moving across zero."

"That means huge changes. It means frozen ground turning to mud, and snow and ice turning to water. It's a fundamental phase shift that's happening in the Arctic faster than anywhere else."

He explains that this sort of change could have huge ramifications for the Canadian territories.

"When it comes to melting permafrost, the potential for carbon to be released into the atmosphere is very high," says Hik. "Here in Alberta, a lot of the late summer flow that comes into the Bow or North Saskatchewan rivers is from glaciers, and they are disappearing at a very rapid rate at the same time that the demand on water resources is increasing exponentially."

But the rest of the world will feel the effects of changes in Arctic climate as well. Rising sea levels, for instance, pose a large potential danger to coastal communities. Hik explains that Malaysia, which lies a few degrees north of the equator, was the first country to pledge funding for IPY.

"It was Malaysia, because they know that the stakes for them are very high. Low-lying areas of the world are very aware of the ramifications of climate change," he says.

Hik emphasizes how important it is that attention be focused on the poles.

"We can maybe slow things down in the next century, but we had better learn to adapt to these warmer conditions very, very soon," he warns.

Liam Colgan agrees. He is a U of A Master's student in glaciology, and has taken several trips to the Devon ice cap in Nunavut for his thesis.

"It's nice to focus on northern research," he says. "There's a lot of evidence that the North is a bellwether for climate change. There are a lot of atmospheric and land-surface reflection properties that make the North sort of a heat sink where it collects through greenhouse gases that preferentially collect at the poles, for instance."

"We have managed to get away with ignoring the Arctic for a very long time, and I think this warming will focus attention on the region," Hik adds. "It will take us some time to catch up our understanding of those systems, and then develop adaptation strategies."

Hik believes that with effort and dedication, communities in the North will be able to take advantage of research to change the way they're using resources.

"One quarter of the budget of Nunavut is spent on diesel fuel. Imagine if a quarter of Alberta's budget were spent on just heating and electricity," he says. "But technologies exist to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels. There's absolutely no reason it has to be that way."

"This is a tremendous opportunity that we have," Hik goes on, referring to the polar year. "Maybe shining a light on the issues will help us think about solutions. Then it becomes easier to find employment, education and deal with the social issues in the North."

The huge social issues that exist in the North are one of the big differences between the Poles.



“If you’re in Brazil and the temperature goes from 30 to 34C, there’ll be some effect, but it’s still hot. In the Antarctic, it might go from -20 to -15C, but things are still frozen. In the Arctic, the temperature is moving across zero. That means huge changes. It means frozen ground turning to mud and snow and ice turning to water. It’s a fundamental phase shift that’s happening in the Arctic faster than anywhere else.”



- The present incarnation of International Polar Year will also be a celebration of its predecessors.
- The first Polar Year was from 1882/83. That event was concerned with establishing international protocols and cooperation for geographical and scientific surveys. Most importantly, the first IPY set a precedent for international scientific cooperation on a grand scale.
- The second polar year, from 1932/33, was very concerned with atmospheric science in particular. One of the milestones established in that year was the foundation of the first inland research station in Antarctica. At the time, 40 countries participated.
- The next collaborative effort on this scale was 1957, when the global scientific community band together for the International Geophysical Year. It’s the IGY that has had the most profound effect on recent polar research. In addition to the many scientific advances it provided—from the launch of the world’s first satellite to confirmation of the long-debated theory of plate tectonics—IGY became an example for many global scientific alliances since.

The Antarctic continent’s only inhabitants are penguins, seals and scientists, and no country is allowed to make a territorial claim to it.

The Arctic, on the other hand, is home to many different communities and nations. Canada is playing a large role in this area of IPY involvement.

“It seems that every other week, the CBC airs a documentary about climate change, and at some point each one has an excerpt from someone who has lived there long enough to notice variabilities out of the natural range,” says Colgan. “Coupled with the huge sense of awareness in the North, there is also a huge sense of helplessness. They’re the ones who are taking the brunt of it, and they have the least political or financial muscle, and the quietest voice. I think they’re looking for any way to reach out.”

“We’re interested in both the biological and human dimensions. The two biggest issues facing the Arctic are climate change and the health and wellness of northern communities.”

Canada’s North faces a huge number of social and political problems, stemming from isolation, past government policies, and of course climate change. Hik offers the example of the health-care system in the territories.

“There isn’t a single Inuit doctor working in the territories, for instance. Health care has huge turnover there,” he said. “We need to find ways to have a sustainable health-care system, and ways of training people from these regions.”

“For Nunavut, the top priority is training health-care professionals, tradespeople, and people in public administration so that they are working in their own communities.”

A lot of Canada’s IPY participants will be looking at issues like this with Northern peoples and governments, to try to find solutions and

alternatives.

“Our other priority is engaging the next generation of polar researchers,” says Hik. “We want to involve as many students as possible, and establish the capacity for future research by supporting and engaging students.”

One way that IPY Canada is reaching out to students is through the Canadian Youth Steering Committee (CYSP). Made up of mostly graduate students, the group’s mandate is to get high-school students across the country involved with IPY.

The CYSC is partnering with schools and existing organizations and projects in much the same way IPY organizers have done with researchers: they’re providing leadership and volunteers for a number of projects for students.

For instance, the CYSC is recruiting graduate students to lecture in high school classrooms as part of an organization called Let’s Talk Science.

“It’s an organization that for the last decade or so has been sending grad students into high schools to give talks. They find really motivated grad students, and teachers who want this in their classroom,” explains Colgan. “What we’re doing for them is trying to recruit a few dozen, perhaps a hundred, polar grad students for them, and hopefully create a sort of polar legacy within Let’s Talk Science.”

The CYSC has also partnered with groups like the National Geographic Society, and are working hard to get polar content introduced into the high school science curriculum.

Another project under way is a partnership with the Weather Channel to create 90-second science infomercials. Colgan’s group will provide the scientific information, and the Weather Channel is volunteering everything else, from production to airtime.

“We’re really excited about it. They have an interested producer who will get footage and stories from our grad students,” says Colgan. “We just have to bring the content.”

In many ways, IPY has never been more pertinent, as the two poles are pivotal to our understanding of climate change issues.

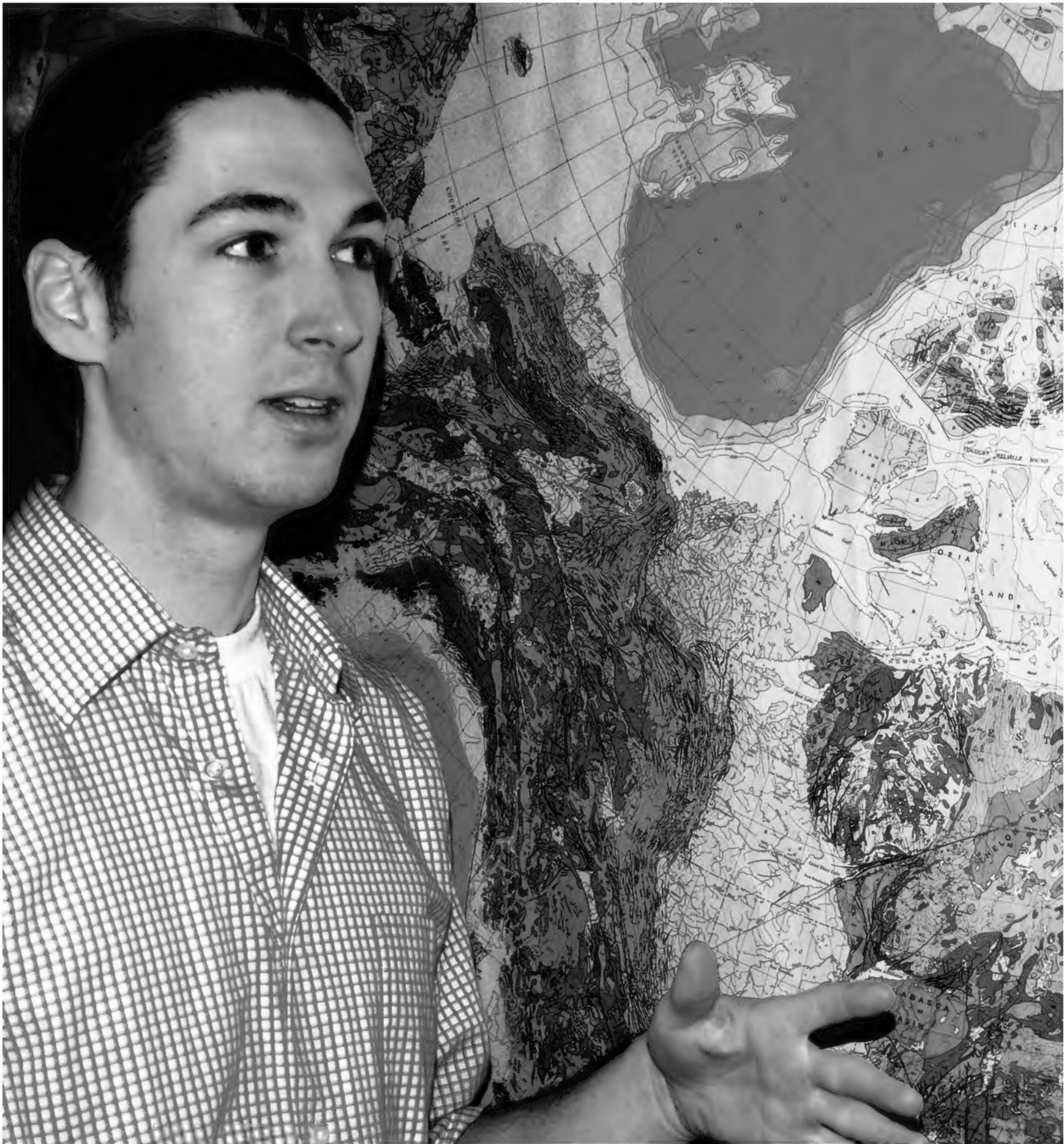
Physical and social scientists the world over are interested in studying the poles, and IPY is a valuable opportunity for them to collaborate and focus their research. IPY initiatives have also

opened up sources of funding, which is always a struggle.

“It’s so expensive to do research there, but it pays off super dividends,” Colgan says. “IPY will hopefully be a chance for an injection into the research profile and added funding for research.”

Hik is excited about what the next two years will hold.

“It’s going to be fun, a lot of fun. The U of A is well placed to be involved in this, and we’re looking forward to it.”



U of A Master’s student Liam Colgan is studying glaciology in Canada’s North.

GREETINGS, HUMANS! I am **DemocRobot**. I have been constructed and programmed to escort you, the reader, for a very special event. If you guessed "the improvement of robo-human relations," you would be wrong. Rather, I am here to act as your guide through the *Gateway's* highly anticipated annual staple of SU elections. Strap yourselves in, my fleshy companions! It's time for ...

POSTER SLAM 2007!



Campus has undergone a complete interior redesign over the past few days. Surfaces that were once brick and paint are now barely visible beneath mounds of glossy (or not-so-glossy) paper. Campaign posters, banners and handbills are one of the easiest ways for people to get informed about the impending Students' Union elections, but that doesn't stop them from being a ridiculous eye-sore.

Thus, for yet another year, the *Gateway* has assembled a crack team to critique neither the personalities nor ideologies of the people who want to be in charge of the SU for the next twelve months, but merely how awful they look on a sheet of 11x7. On this year's panel are: pundit **Phil Head**, whose Masters in paronomasia made him an obvious choice; **Jonn Kmech**, the top poster critic this side of the Mississippi and a man with a dreaded wit; **Paul Owen**, the pride of Bow Island, Alberta, whose experience with election posters consists largely of replacing them with pictures of his own genitals; and **Amanda Ash**, whose pretentious taste in music and art guides her taste in design.

Paul: Let's kick it off with the presidential candidates and **Amanda Henry**.

Jonn: It's not *that* bad.

Phil: It's better than her poster for Vice-President (Academic) last year. Last year was horrible; this year is comparatively amazing, so at least she learned something during her year in the SU.

Paul: There's still too much orange for me on this page. Orange on black and white isn't a colour scheme for me.

Phil: Orange you glad no one else used it?

Amanda: It's like a mouldy jack-o'-lantern.

Phil: The lines of the handrail behind her are kind of nice. The leading lines draw your eyes from her to the text, back-and-forth.

Amanda: She's just at that right balance: she's not overtly like, "I'm going to take over this campus, take it in my hands, and do all this crazy stuff."

Paul: What is Amanda talking about?

Amanda: The way she's dressed! I think her persona in this is very professional.



Paul: Alright, let's move to **Michael Janz**, whose seems to be saying, "Vote for me before I die of jaundice."

Phil: I like how he's both cross-eyed and looking straight up at something other than the camera.

Paul: It looks like someone is fondling him.

Phil: And he's enjoying it.

Amanda: It also looks like he's wearing a toupé.

Jonn: And the colour is terrible—you could use it to warn people about deer.

Paul: When I first saw it, I hated it a lot, and

now I hate it slightly less. It's like when someone gets a terminal disease and then learns to live with it.

Phil: I hear you can catch all sorts of things in Lister.

Jonn: It might glow in the dark.

Paul: How about **Cody "My hair is taking over this poster" Lawrence**?

Amanda: He has balls!

Paul: Well, he is a guy, Amanda.

Amanda: No, text balls, they're floating away. I don't even understand what they're supposed to be.

Jonn: The colour scheme is the best thus far.

Phil: And the picture is very sharp.

Amanda: Yeah, but his hair looks windblown.

Paul: Either that or he stuck his tongue in an electrical socket.

Jonn: The sad thing is, he actually looks like that.

Phil: It's actually a pretty nice poster, if you ignore the floating balls and random Greek lettering.

Chuck Norris' roundhouse kicks will put the power back in the Powerplant.



- Vote Chuck Norris for President -
Wed March 7 and Thurs March 8

Paul: Let's move on to some not-so-nice looking posters: the four that advertise for **Chuck Norris**, the first of the three presidential joke candidates.

Jonn: Chuck Norris was cool like a year-and-a-half ago.

Amanda: It looks like someone slapped my hotmail inbox all over campus.

Paul: The Chuck Norris posters are pretty much what everyone expected them to be: a

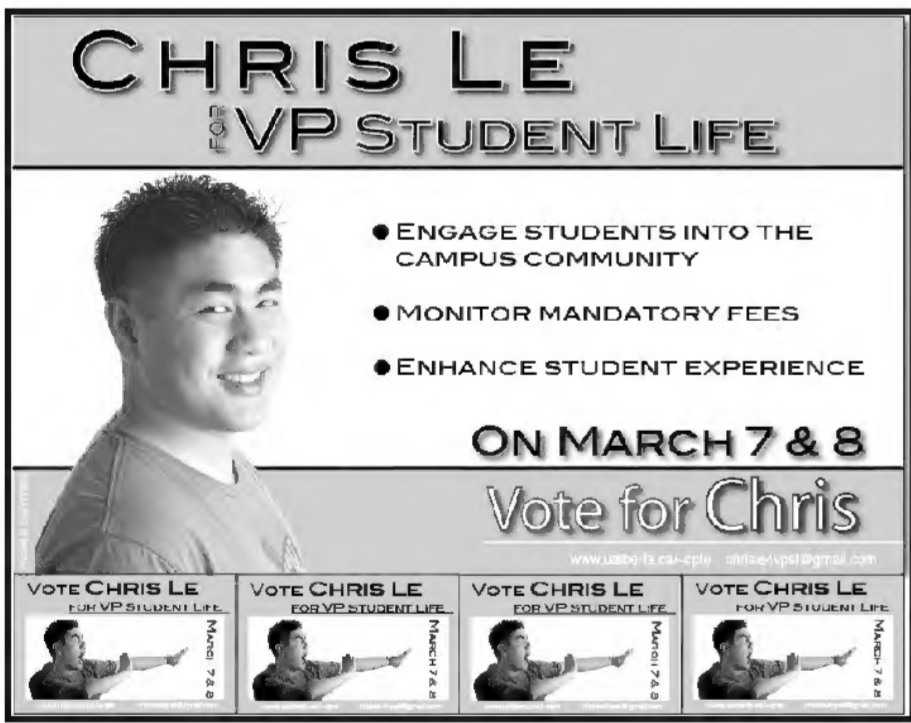
crappy Chuck Norris joke and a picture pulled off the Internet.
Amanda: Printed on plain, white paper.

Paul: Speaking of posters with way too much white, how about **George Rho**? My first impression of this is that there are way too many colours on this poster, none of which are black.
Amanda: I like the sentence, “Ensuring there is an abundance of free stuff available to the student body, don’t free stuff cheer everyone up?” Lovely grammar. And a comma splice.
Jonn: A vote for George Rho is a vote for word art. What is George Rho anyway? Someone made-up?
Paul: I’m sure he’ll reveal himself in good time—hopefully it’s not until after the elections are finished. And I wish George Rho would understand that the drop-shadowing on lettering went out six years ago.
Phil: Six?
Paul: Teen.

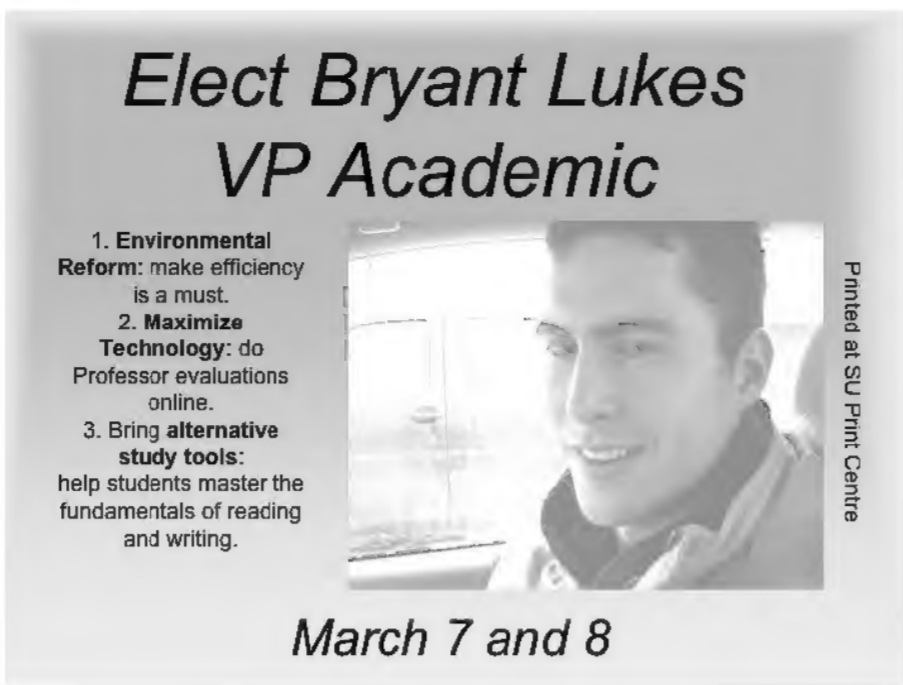


Paul: Let’s move on to a candidate that is much more with the times: **Ursa Minor**. Anyone else find it kind of morbid that they ripped the head off a stuffed bear and threw it on top of a robot?
Phil: Are you saying it’s unbearable?
Paul: Almost as much as your jokes.
Jonn: And can you really advocate for “machine rights?”
Phil: It’s a startling position.
Jonn: I can’t believe that someone spent the time to spell out Ursa Minor in binary.
Amanda: Someone needs a girlfriend.

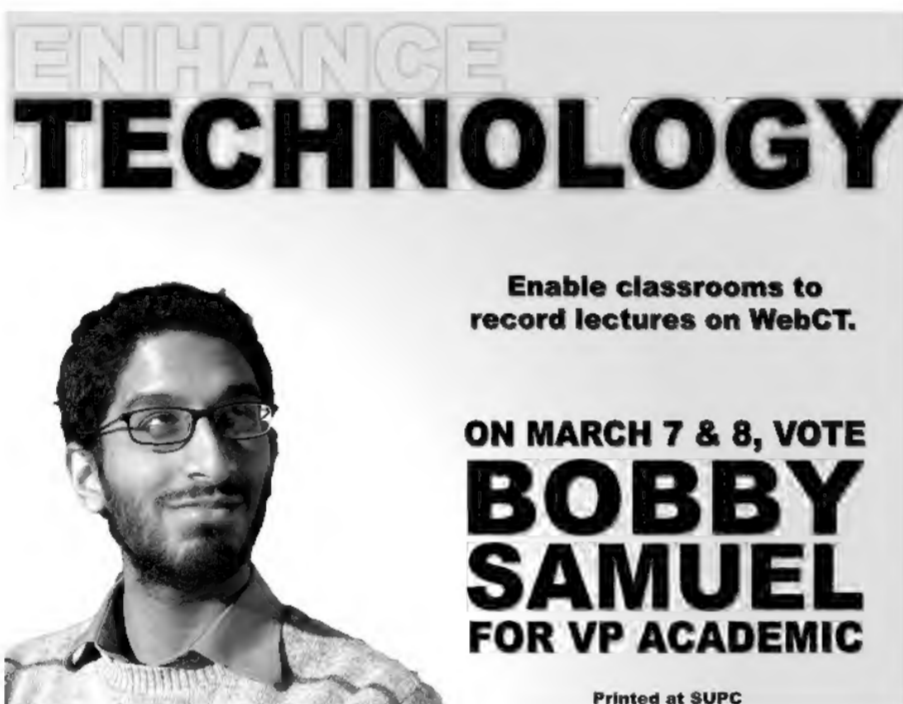
Paul: Apparently so does VPSL candidate **Chris Le**, who, according to his Facebook, is both single and into women.
Jonn: His was probably the best poster.
Phil: Maybe not the best, but very competent.
Amanda: I like the placement, but his picture looks very dull and washed out.
Paul: That seems to be the theme that everyone went for this year: very dull colours and washed-out photographs.
Phil: Washed out might just be an omen for next year’s SU.



Paul: At least his picture isn’t as bad as his opponent’s: the **Chubby Puff Ball**.
Jonn: This is an awful-looking poster.
Phil: Is it just me, or does “Chubby Puff Ball” sound like some sort of medical condition. The fact that it’s on a blue background doesn’t help.
Amanda: It looks like the CD cover to some Christian rock band.
Paul: The picture is pixellated, and so is the background. The hazy blueness is giving me a headache.
Phil: Unless you’re Scottish, stuffing sheep isn’t a good thing.
Paul: As bad as this poster is, it pales in comparison to that of our first VPA candidate, **Bryant Lukes**.
Amanda: Oh my god is that ugly.
Phil: He obviously took the picture in his car, with a cellphone. It’s pixellated, it’s washed out and his eyes are half asleep. I also like how he used colours ranging from puke-green



to piss-green.
Paul: And neglected to make his poster fill out the entire page it was printed on.
Phil: It looks like a bad Powerpoint slide.
Paul: What does “make efficiency is a must” even fucking mean? How can you claim to want to “help students master the fundamentals of reading and writing” if your poster makes you seem illiterate?
Amanda: It looks like he just threw it together last minute.
Phil: And if he’s so into environmental reform, why is he taking pictures in a car, instead of on a bus?
Paul: Maybe his platform is recycled chalk.
Amanda: I also like how his idea of maximizing technology is doing professor evaluations online.
Paul: No, the best thing he can do with technology is taking a picture on his cellphone and manipulating it on Powerpoint.
Phil: There’s no better way to talk about environmental reforms than wallpapering campus with crappy posters.



Paul: Moving on to **Bobby Samuel**.
Phil: The best thing about the crappy grey colour scale is that it’s not a crappy green colour scale.
Amanda: And this poster doesn’t reach the edge either.
Paul: And the words don’t even look like they’re in focus.
Phil: Well, then I guess we know what his campaign won’t focus on.
Amanda: I can’t look at these any more.

Paul: Then let’s move on to potential VPOF **Eamonn Gamble**.
Phil: I think he shows a very interesting poker face. The way the picture’s shot straight on shows his flush cheeks. The design kind of craps out, and the resumé points just look slotted in there; overall, it’s very dicey. He should really take a chance and improve his visuals—maybe he should spend less time at home watching *Full House* reruns.
Amanda: I agree with Phil; maybe it would be a good idea for him to fold.



Paul: Ugh. This is the one poster that takes the time to explain why Eamonn is qualified for the job—although he spells Students’ Union wrong.
Jonn: And he spelled councillor wrong. Though I do like the contrast with the black text on light blue—this is easy to read, it’s not bad, but it’s disgustingly mediocre.
Paul: It looks like the colour of the shirt his mom bought him to wear to his junior high prom because it brought out the colour in his eyes.
Jonn: And she was right! Look at those baby blues.

Amanda: Speaking of blues, let’s move on to his opponent, **Jesse Hahn**.
Phil: I assume he’ll be very hands on.
Jonn: It looks like a blue bathroom wall and he’s just finished at the urinal.
Paul: Finished? He’s still going.
Amanda: Now I can’t imagine anything except him standing on this majestic cliff and pissing off it.
Paul: Like he’ll piss away our money?
Amanda: He also looks like he stole a random circle from Cody Lawrence.
Paul: I like this colour scheme though.
Phil: Perhaps while beating Gamble black and blue?

Paul: We need to end the pun-fest that has been VPOF and look at **Steve Dollansky**, who’s running for VPX and clearly stole his poster idea from Michael Janz.
Amanda: And somehow did better.
Phil: It’s very, very nice. That’s probably the best design I’ve seen so far.
Paul: I don’t know. Some of these random bullets don’t make sense. Apparently Ho Ho’s Chinese place needs to restore quality through increased government funding.
Jonn: That one actually makes sense.



continued on the next page ...

Paul: Of course, he doesn't stand a chance against **Soundwave**—the only one who could ever counter him was Blaster.

Phil: I'm a little concerned that his play button is on his crotch. That seems a little lewd.

Paul: All he's missing is the Cassetticons; they should be running as a slate.

Jonn: It's definitely the best of the joke candidates.

Amanda: I think they know their target audience. And they have a harpoon gun. Where's Steve Dollansky's harpoon gun?

Jonn: I never want to see that purple again.

Amanda: It's metallic—he's a robot.



Paul: Not that that will matter in the long run. Speaking of not mattering, how about we move on to the BoG reps, starting with **Adam Guiney**.

Phil: That's a pretty nice cold sore he's got there.

Paul: All he's missing is the popped collar.

Jonn: What the fuck is with the crooked picture?

Paul: Perhaps the photographer was bumped by the scores and scores of ladies coming to tell Adam how sexy his poster is.

Amanda: If you're going to take a picture and have that much of your shirt in it, you should probably wear a better shirt—it looks like a cotton one from Wal-Mart.

Paul: If you want to make fun of anybody's shirt, make it Prem Erubetina's, which has the seams on the outside.

Phil: Is it just me, or is he so impressed with his torso that he made his head tiny to fit it all in.

Paul: Clearly he's only impressed with the left half of his torso.

Amanda: This photo is almost as bad as Bryant Lukes'—vacation photos aren't cool.

Jonn: Let's look at what the poster actually says.

Paul: No, there's too much.

Phil: And it's tiny.

Amanda: And he doesn't know how to use an m-dash; though I'm curious as to what the rest of the picture is.

Phil: Maybe he's not wearing pants.



Paul: Speaking of not wearing pants, let's move on to the latest of the dull, faded posters: **Paul Chiswell**.

Phil: All I can say is that I'm glad they cropped out the blowjob. I'm kind of concerned as to where his hands might be.

Jonn: His mouth is huge; he looks like the fucking Joker.

Phil: That is the creepiest expression I've ever seen, and I'm blinded by the white.

Amanda: It doesn't matter what the hell he wrote on this poster because no one will be able to peel their eyes away from that picture.

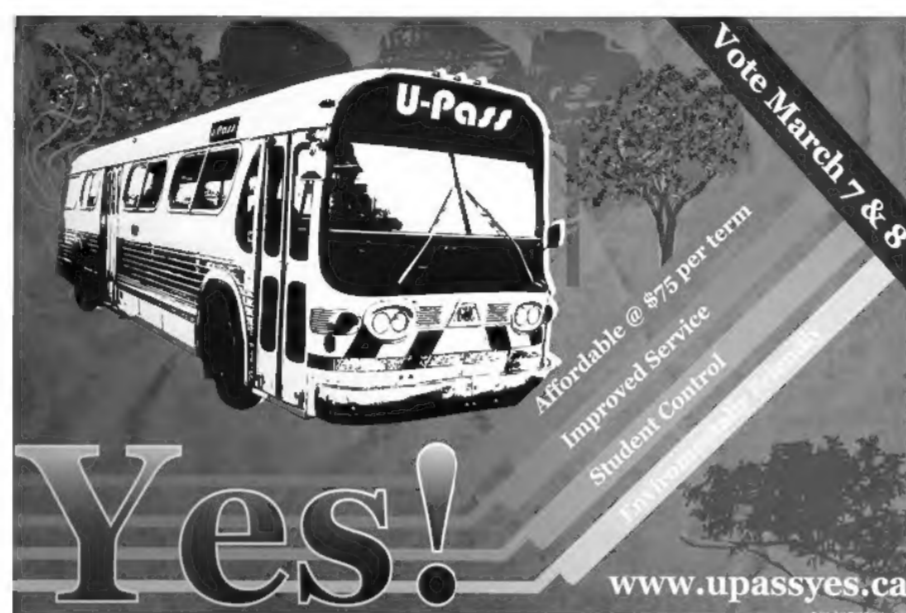
Paul: Our last two races are the Coke plebiscite and U-Pass referendum, both of which only have one side with posters: the U-Pass because no one is running the No side and the Coke question because the Yes side couldn't get their posters in on time.

Amanda: I like the **Coke No** side. For a campaign that was fined \$900, it's commendable that they went forward with posters at all, even if they are hand-painted.

Jonn: If you turn it sideways, the scales look like trumpets.

Phil: Maybe they could have borrowed some green paint from Michelle Kelly.

Amanda: Fingerprint on Kindergarten scrap paper, and it still has better quality than half the posters we've seen.



Paul: Now we'll break out the **U-Pass Yes** side.

Phil: I really like it.

Amanda: It looks like the seats on the bus.

Phil: Seriously, that's the best poster ever. I love it.

Paul: This from the guy who owns tie-dyed T-shirts and a necklace with a giant peace sign on it.

Jonn: I give them point for having a bold idea. Everything else seems slapped together, but at least these guys had a motif they were going with.

Phil: I want to take it home and put it on my wall.

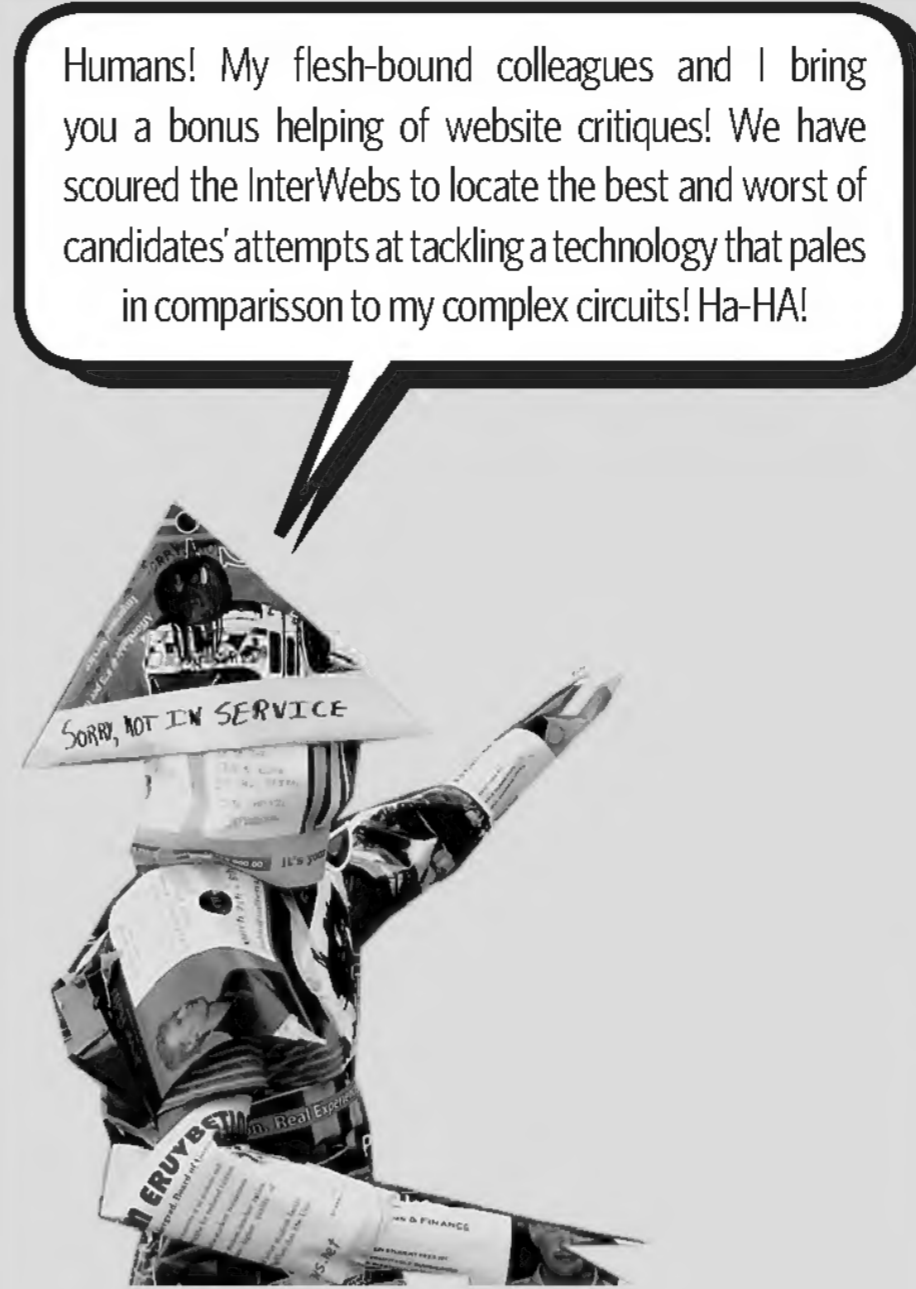
The Final Decisions

Phil: My favourite is the U-Pass Yes. It's got nice colours and it's bold. A close second would be Steve Dollansky. Beyond a doubt, Bryant Lukes is the worst. It's horrifically horrible; it's an abomination to nature that should be burned on sight. It's an absolute disgrace, but at least he's not as creepy looking as Paul Chiswell.

Amanda: I'm going to have to say Steve Dollansky, just because it's simple and appealing, and it's clean. His picture doesn't look creepy. Close second would be Cody Lawrence. I want to go with Adam Guiney for worst, but at least his has some effort put into it. Bryant Lukes' is just shit. Bright green, OMG! It's so bad that I don't even have words for it.

Jonn: I liked Chris Le's because it was simple and all the colours came out well. Even though he used too much drop-shadowing, it's pretty clean. My second favourite would probably be the Coke No. Paul Chiswell's is so amusingly bad that it probably should be among the best, were it intentional. As it stands, I'm going to have to go with Adam Guiney for the worst: everything is wrong with it. The picture looks like it was taken during an earthquake.

Paul: For the best, I'm going to have to go with Soundwave, because it's the only poster that has a sharp, eye-catching picture in it. All the other candidates look blurry or out of focus or are the wrong colour or something. My least favourite is George Rho. There's no one thing terrible about it, but there's nothing on the poster that will catch your eye, and that means it won't serve its purpose at all. **G**



Special guest panelists are: **Ryan Heise**, whose exploits on UseNet fetish groups have made him a self-proclaimed Internet guru, and **Matt Frehner**, world-renowned speed-greaser of Internet tubes, and former truck driver.

Michael Janz
President
www.votejanz.ca



Ryan: It's nice to know that he just turned 45 degrees for his website photo compared to his poster. It's also nice to see that his jaundice his slowly progressing to the stage of sepia. But why does the navigation box change position from the homepage to the other pages? Gross.

Matt: Neckbeard! Janz needs to find himself someone who understands photography and lighting. Might I suggest Cody Lawrence's webcam?

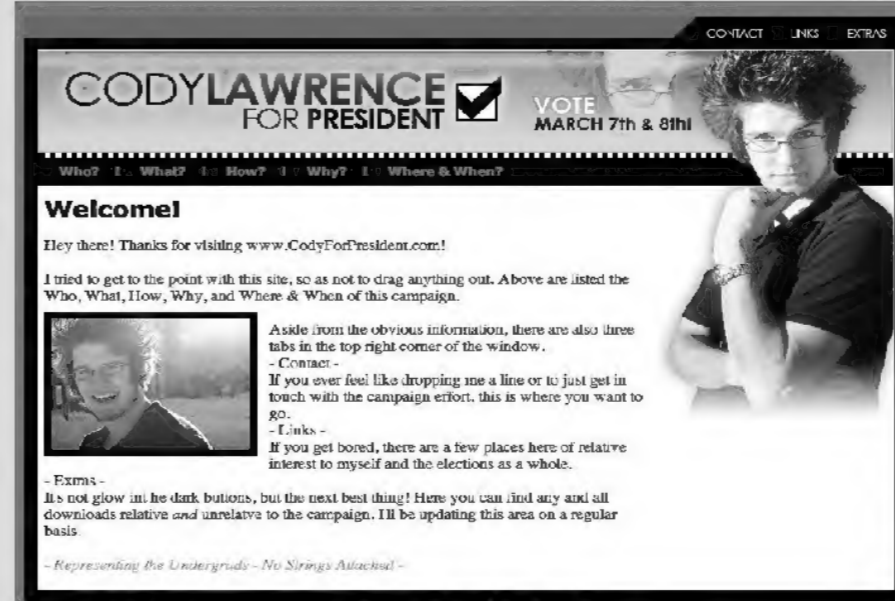
Amanda Henry
President
amandahenry.org



Ryan: Holy shit! It's a honeycomb of democracy! Really, it's not that bad of a site. A little sparse on the content and foolish left-to-right spacing, but it's actually pretty inoffensive. Wait, I just read a bit more and realized that white text on an orange background is burning my corneas.

Matt: Where Janz has a lot of content in a really assy design, Amanda has a decent design with fuck-all in terms of explaining her ideas or experience. Seriously, the tubes are limitless; use them. You can have more info than what's on your poster.

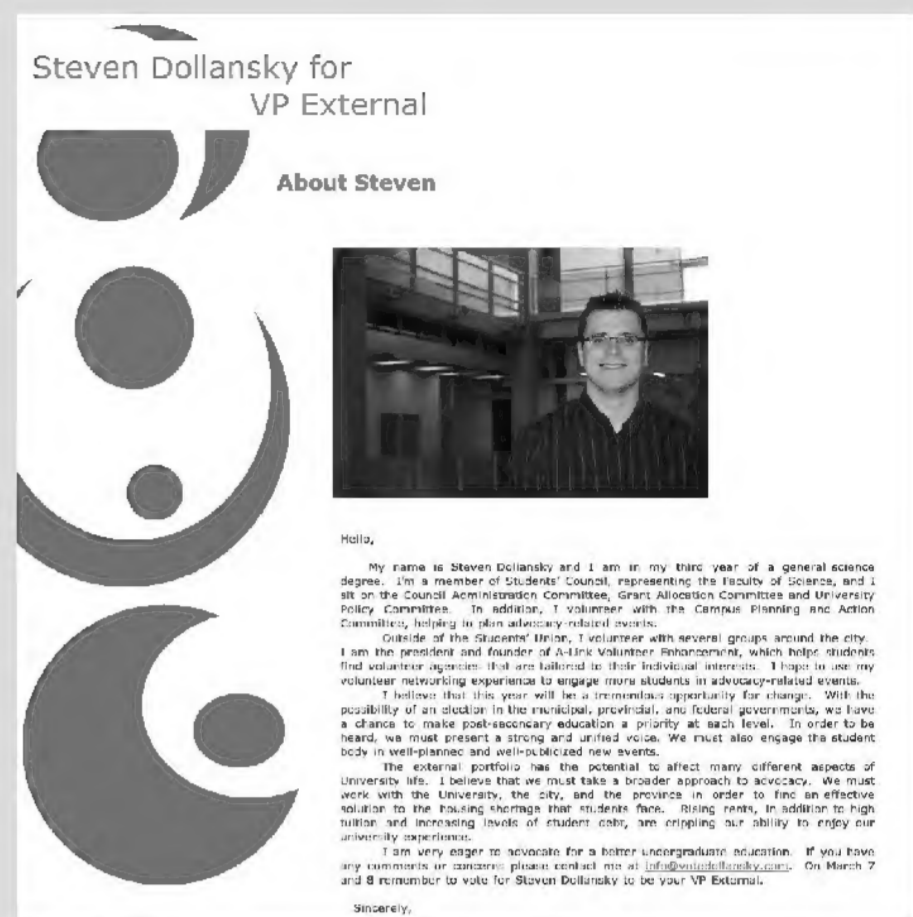
Cody Lawrence
President
www.codyforpresident.com



Ryan: Why did Cody Lawrence put up his MySpace page? Seriously. It looks like he took these pictures with a webcam. I'm waiting to click on a link and see a picture of Cody standing in his bathroom without his shirt on. Also, is he some sort of anime joke candidate? Seriously, he looks like he's going to start throwing fireballs at me.

Matt: Yeah, after my hardon goes away, I'll totally vote for him, especially with that saucy-boy leer.

Steven Dollansky
VP External
votedollansky.com



Ryan: I'm pretty sure scanning your poster and putting it on the Internet—URL and all— isn't really having a website. Oh, there's some links at the bottom. Jesus. Why did I click them? It's like reading a poorly laid out Word document. And what the hell are those symbols? Why did he try to copy the Islamic flag and fail?

Paul: Oh my God! Saudi Arabia!

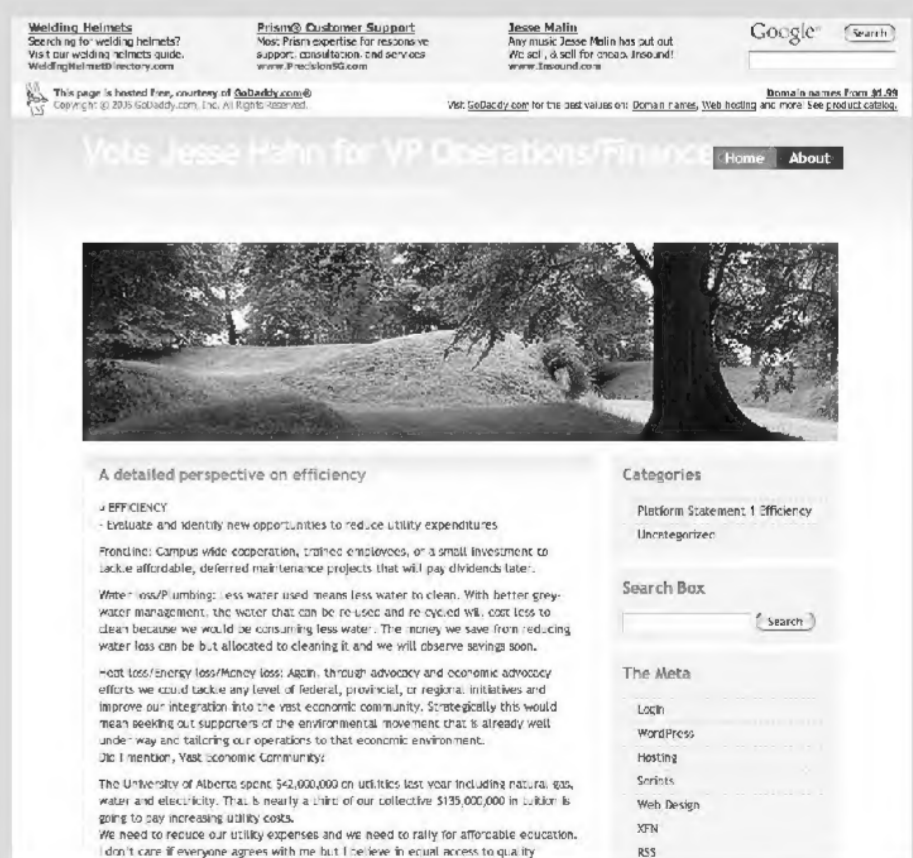
Matt: And the poorly placed photo looks like he just Photoshopped his mom out of the left side. Rule of thirds doesn't mean just putting yourself on the right-hand side.

Chris Le
VP Student Life
www.ualberta.ca/~cple/contact.html



Matt: Aside from suffering from the same complete lack of content that Amanda Henry does, his site actually looks pretty hot. Ryan: Oh man! A blog?! I better subscribe to his RSS! The life of the VP SL is so sexy and mysterious. How can you not want to know what's constantly going on in his life?

Jesse Hahn
VP Operations and Finance
www.jessehahn.info



Matt: Are his Google ads the plan for turning the Powerplant around? He'd only need about 3 million hits to make up the last eight months of losses. Ryan: Why does he have some nature picture on his site? It doesn't make any sense. Is he going to spend all of the SU's money on foliage? Can someone please explain this to me because it's really pissing me off. At least he doesn't have some horrible masturbatory picture of himself. **G**

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Pride Tiger

With Frosted Tipz and Headband
Thursday, 1 March at 8pm
Starlite Room, 18+
Tickets \$10

The masters of kicking it old school, Pride Tiger is East Vancouver's premier '70s rock revivalist group. Following in the tradition of bands like Thin Lizzy and Lynyrd Skynyrd, Pride Tiger pounds out balls-to-the-wall retro rock while scaring the living shit out of you with rollover website graphics that scream maniacally. Flash-related gimmicks aside, the band is touring to support their debut album *Wood, Dhak, Froese, Payette*. The album features songs such as "Sagittarius Man" and "This Old Louse," detailing their hatred for Bob Vila and their desire to find a nice Sagittarius who is lovable, not too overbearing and willing to really listen to their problems.

The Line Atlantic CD Release

With The Johnsons and snic
Saturday, 3 March at 8pm
Powerplant
Tickets \$8 or \$15 with CD

The Line Atlantic believe in angels. Specifically, they claim to believe that if angels were to relinquish their wings and pick up "instruments of sonic destruction," said angels would indeed sound very much like they do. Thus, this heaven sent group of fallen angels intend to descend to the Powerplant with instruments in hand on Saturday, acting as messengers of God and delivering a requiem called *The Subhuman Condition*.



Days of Glory

Starring Jamal Debbouze and Samy Naceri
Directed by Rachid Bouchareb
Garneau Theatre
Opens Friday, 2 March

Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film of the Year, *Days of Glory*—also known as *Indigènes*—is the critically acclaimed tale of four North African men who enrolled in the French army in World War II during the Nazi occupation of France, and who faced discrimination for being non-French despite their dedication to the country's fight. The film was so well received that it actually fuelled political change and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, after viewing the film last year, reinstituted the pensions for soldiers from countries no longer under French rule, which the government had removed shortly after the war had ended.

Factory Girl

Starring Sienna Miller, Guy Pearce and Hayden Christensen
Directed by George Hickenlooper
Opens Friday, 2 March
Princess Theatre

This biopic centers on the story of Edie Sedgwick, the '60s American socialite and actress who became a star of the pop art movement due to her relationship with art icon Andy Warhol. Detailing her times at Warhol's Factory, a building where a significant portion of his art was created, Sienna Miller portrays Sedgwick as she becomes encapsulated in the psychedelic world of drugs and parties. Notably, the film also features former SNL star and current comedic buffoon Jimmy Fallon in his most convincing and nuanced acting role since he dragged his ass down a sidewalk in that Pepsi commercial.

JOHN KMECH
A&E superfreak



A different kind of Ghandi

Even though Propaghandi may enjoy fur coats soaked in blood, they're still some peaceful dudes

Propaghandi

With Fractal Pattern, Corvid Lorax and In Irons
Saturday, 3 March at 5pm
Starlite Room

JOHN KMECH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Next time you get a bucket of blood tossed on you by a PETA activist while you're out wearing your mink coat, just remember that Propagandhi say hello.

"I don't mind [the buckets of blood]," says Todd "The Rod" Kowalski, the Winnipeg-based punk band's bassist. "If they're wearing a fur coat, fuck, who cares? Let them wear the blood. Who gives a shit? We don't agree with everything [PETA] does, like when they have models being naked because they'd rather be naked than wear fur. It kind of throws sexism into the mix. But as far as dousing people with blood, why not? GWAR can do it."

Along with advocating animal rights, Propagandhi has been campaigning against homophobia, sexism, imperialism, racism and human-rights abuse for over two decades now. The band released *Potemkin City Limits* in 2005 and recently added guitarist David Guillas to the lineup, making the band a quartet for the first time. Guillas' nickname in the band is "The Beaver," a name bestowed on him by his love affair with an intergalactic rodent.

"He's actually had [the nickname] for a long time," Kowalski mentions. "He really liked this cartoon called *Space Beaver*, so the name just stuck. He's had it since he was a kid."

The Beaver is only the latest lineup change the band has made over the years. After parting ways with John K Samson, who went on to form the Winnipeg folk band The Weakerthans, Kowalski joined Propagandhi to take over on bass. But the most notorious lineup change came when guitarist and founding member Chris Hannah had left the band in 2003, to be replaced on the 2005 record *Potemkin City*

Limits by Glen Lambert, a former member of the *Portage Terriers*, who fans noted sounded disturbingly similar to Hannah. After the album, the band announced to their skeptics that Lambert had been kicked out of the band and Hannah had returned. Although they enjoyed their time with Lambert, Kowalski noted that they don't return his phone calls anymore.

"Yeah, we try not to talk to Lambert anymore," laughs Kowalski. "He's an imbecile. We just told him, 'Get the fuck out of here!' Then Hannah came back, oddly, looking exactly like Glen and sounding like him as well. You realize they're the same person, right?"

"We don't agree with everything [PETA] does, like when they have models being naked because they'd rather be naked than wear fur. It kind of throws sexism into the mix. But as far as dousing people with blood, why not? GWAR can do it."

TODD "THE ROD" KOWALSKI

Even with a healthy dose of humour and trickery, Propagandhi rally behind their leftist causes with a decidedly serious and intellectual vengeance. The concept behind the album centred around Potemkin villages, fake towns purportedly erected by the Russian minister Gregori Potemkin in the late-18th century to impress Catherine The Great about the value of the land she was ruling. Now used to describe a false reality, Kowalski notes that the band wanted to make a statement about the sheltered reality of Western culture that was shattered by 9/11.

"Everyone who wasn't paying attention to

anything in the world was all shocked at 9/11, like 'How could they do this to us?'" Kowalski explains. "At certain times like that, they reach the limit. But anyone really paying attention to the world wasn't too shocked by it, because you knew it was going to happen eventually."

Propagandhi's songwriting inspiration came from both international and local sources, as illustrated by "Bringer of Greater Things." The track deals with the deaths of Rodney Naistus, Neil Stonechild, Lawrence Wegner and other Aboriginal youth who were reportedly driven by Saskatoon police to a field outside the city under severely cold temperatures and left for dead.

Kowalski notes that while this was the main focus of his writing, it was also dedicated to fighting similar troubles that could infiltrate a post-war Iraq.

"You're watching the US invade Iraq, pretending they're going to bring all these great things, and they have no interest in the people or the culture there," Kowalski says somberly. "It just parallels Canada for me. Like 500 years after that dickhead Columbus landed, the Aboriginal people are still being oppressed. And I wonder, is that what Iraq has to look forward to? White cops driving them out to the desert and leaving them to die?"

Even in their cruellest fantasies, Propagandhi's sly sense of humour still manages to permeate their music—and it pays off. "A Speculative Fiction," which describes a fantasy that Hannah had involving Canada invading and conquering the US, recently won the first ECHO Songwriting Award, offered by the Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada. With that kind of appreciation, could this this be a sign that Canada is prepared, if necessary, to deploy the Sea Kings and make America the eleventh province?

"Probably, but I think we'd be too lazy in the end," Kowalski jokes. "The only problem is, I think they'd shut off our power and we'd freeze to death before we even got our underwear out of the drawer."

THE GATEWAY

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KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

THE ELECTIONS ARE HEATING UP And nothing is hotter than Poster Slam, the *Gateway's* annual look at how the SU executive candidates don't know how to use Powerpoint. Check it out on page 16.

Alberta using its wealth to lure medical researchers

Recruitment plan organizers say long-term benefits will be felt across Canada

OLESIA PLOKHII
News Staff

In an effort to recruit the highest calibre of health scientists to the province, the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research (AHFMR) has unveiled a million dollar plan to draw in top talent from around the world to an Alberta university.

The \$10 million accord, called the Polaris Award, will be given over a ten-year period to the most deserving contender. University of Alberta President, Indira Samarasekera, hopes that it will lure a scientist who will provide exemplary research techniques and help motivate interest in health study in future generations.

"[This award] allows us to recruit someone who is truly a top-flight researcher from outside Canada, and I think this would signal to Canadians and the international community that Alberta is serious about the quality of its research," Samarasekera said.

The Polaris Award allows the three main postsecondary institutions in the province—the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary and the University of Lethbridge—to compete against one another to woo international superstars that lead the scientific

research world in innovation.

According to AHFMR President Kevin Keough, the university who attracts the top researcher will then have to match the organization's bid of \$10 million, meaning a total of a \$20 million for a decade's worth of research at the victorious university.

"We're talking about people who might already be nominated for the Nobel Prize."

INDIRA SAMARASEKERA,
U OF A PRESIDENT

Keough said that the AHFMR will be involved in deciding who the universities approach.

"We want to make sure that the individual has the ability to build and attract people to the area of work," he said.

Right now, Samarasekera explained, the U of A is in the preliminary stages of the recruitment process, which includes sorting through names of possible Polaris candidates.

"We have good contacts around the world, so were calling out to some of

our alumni who are in very prominent positions. We are getting their advice, getting advice from our faculties, deans, department chairs and researchers," she said.

Samarasekera said that the U of A will be recruiting someone who has already made a name for themselves with "cutting edge" research work.

"We're talking about people who might already be nominated for the Nobel Prize," she said.

"We want to recruit in areas that we are already on the world-class stage for to build on strength," she added, giving the example of neuroscience as being the next frontier in health.

Since brain research is a big focal point of research recently, Samarasekera thinks that progress focuses on the field could be strategically important for the U of A.

Both Keough and Samarasekera agreed that the Polaris Award is important for not only Alberta, but for Canada as a whole.

"There's no doubt this benefits Alberta, but also, when you find a new clinical process, or a new drug, or even if you solve the next step of the puzzle, that information immediately extends outwards," Keough said.

Cheating statistics can be misleading: Eerkes

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

In the 12 February issue of *Maclean's* magazine, the feature article drew readers in with a cover-page headline stating that widespread cheating at Canadian universities was tainting "all degrees."

"A recent University of Guelph study has discovered that more than half the student body in Canada is cheating its way through school. And there is no recall," the *Maclean's* article stated.

"All they say is 50 per cent of students cheat [and that] we're all going to hell in a hand basket—what they don't say is the way the survey is structured."

DEBORAH EERKES, OFFICE OF
STUDENT JUDICIAL AFFAIRS

However, according to individuals dealing with academic integrity issues here at the University of Alberta, despite the magazine's alarming assertions, it's unfounded to claim that half of the student body is untrustworthy.

Deborah Eerkes, acting director in

the office of student judicial affairs, explained the U of A, along with nine other Canadian universities, had taken part in the Guelph study, but stressed that its results can be misleading.

"All they say is 50 per cent of students cheat [and that] we're all going to hell in a hand basket—what they don't say is the way the survey is structured," she said.

The Guelph study asked students whether or not they had engaged in any of 25 behaviors the authors of the study defined as cheating. However, while serious offences such as buying papers off the Internet and using cheat sheets were listed, other more vaguely defined cheating activities such as collaborating on assignments were also counted.

"These are behaviors that students don't necessarily consider to be cheating behaviors, but they're being counted when the statistics are reported," Eerkes said, noting that one of the significant results of the study actually showed that students are less likely to engage in certain activities if they think they could land them violations of academic integrity.

However, Cathy Gulli, one of the writers of the *Maclean's* article, maintained that the 25 different activities that qualified as cheating in the Guelph study are well outlined.

PLEASE SEE **CHEATING** ♦ PAGE 2

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Mythbusters!

If you're looking for the low-down on the Coke question, then look no further. Well, you'll have to turn a few pages ...

OPINION, PAGE 11



Slippery slope

International Polar Year starts today, as researchers look at the social and environmental issues facing the poles.

FEATURE, PAGE 14

Post-rock is, like, so pomo

Do Make Say Think

With Westfalia
Friday, 2 March at 8pm
Starlite Room

KRISTINA DE GUZMAN
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Ohad Benchetrit isn't a fan of the term "post-rock"—but unfortunately it's one that also happens to be what his Toronto-based band, Do Make Say Think, has so often been associated with since its inception in 1995.

Blurrily defined as using rock instrumentation for non-rock purposes, the post-rock umbrella hangs over bands like Mogwai, Explosions In The Sky and Godspeed You! Black Emperor. The label, nevertheless, is considered a throwaway by both critics and musicians alike.

"It's kind of annoying to have people say that [post-rock] is the kind of music you are," vents Benchetrit. "We never agreed to that when we started a band. I mean, we never heard of the term post-rock before. Just because you created it doesn't mean we're now obligated to be

everything you think post-rock is supposed to be."

For DMST's recent fifth album *You, You're a History in a Rust*, the band went beyond the rules of their usual instrumental music and decided to add some lyrics. While the human voice had previously been used in their other albums, the use of words is novel.

Benchetrit admits that the band remains concerned about using lyrics that will take away listeners' ability to interpret their music.

"We hinted at it very lightly on the record ... and that's why we wouldn't overly use [lyrics]," Benchetrit says. "I would say 95 per cent of the record is still instrumental. But you don't want every moment in the record to be the same so if we have one or two moments where we've interpreted certain things on purpose. I still think that's fine."

Even more unique about DMST's latest release is its country twang, thanks to the addition of banjos and acoustic guitars. In the past, such instruments were only displayed for minute moments. This time around, they have been pushed centre stage.

Having been in the music scene now for a decade, DMST have had time to reflect on how their past performance ideas might have lost that special touch. However, the group has maintained their artistic goals, thus explaining how *You, You're a History in a Rust* came to be title of the new album.

"The rust part came from the idea that some things are old and have lost their initial value," Benchetrit explains. "If you look at a rusted piano and bike, they don't have their initial value anymore. You can't ride that bike, you can't play that piano. But somehow, in a way, they're still very beautiful. And now, they're almost art."

Over the years, Benchetrit has seen a rise in the popularity of many post-rock bands such as Sigur Rós and Godspeed. However, he believes that you can't control whether or not a band achieves success, and understands that instrumental music isn't for everyone.

"There's music that you would never listen to by yourself, like a certain kind of dance music," says Benchetrit. "But when you're out with your friends on a Saturday night, all of a sudden you



understand why people like house music. That's its time, that's its place. There are lots of people out there who don't like jazz or classical at all but they're still completely valid styles. You

can try your hardest to sit down and explain why John Coltrane is a master, but at the end of the day, if they don't like jazz, there's nothing you can do about it."

Where have all the good, mid-sized venues gone?



PAUL
BLINOV

I had the distinct pleasure of seeing Metric at the Dinwoodie last September. This was pre-*Live It Out*, and the band had yet to attain the huge following that would emerge after the release of that album. The place was packed anyways, mind you, and as you probably already know if you've seen

them live, Metric is a force to be reckoned with. New and old songs alike were greeted with roars, and one guy kept shouting, "How do you rock so hard?" I left that show with my ears ringing and my mind blown. It was easily one the best shows I've seen: in your face, sweaty and mesmerizing.

Jump forward several months, one gold album and three other shows in Edmonton, and I went to see Metric again. This time, however, their fan base had swollen exponentially—thanks to constant MuchMusic rotation—and the band was now playing the Shaw Conference Centre.

The Shaw is colossal when compared

to the University of Alberta's Dinwoodie Lounge, and the magic present in Metric's previous show didn't hold up in the yawning size of the place. To me, it was a disappointment, but not due to Metric's performance at all. They played with just as much energy as they had in September, but it was just too big of a place for that band to command.

What we need is a new mid-sized venue in Edmonton. Look at what we have. The venue formerly known as Red's? It's the right size, but the acoustics are mangled at best and there's also that obtrusive pillar. You know the one. The Sidetrack Café just closed, so the best thing we have of a medium size

at the moment is the Starlite room, which, coupled with Victory Lounge downstairs, carries its share of shows. But that's a handful of venues for a truckload of touring acts.

It's simple: the closer you are to your favourite band, the more energy they can take from you and, chances are, the better show they'll put on. But the problem persists: what do you do if your favourite band should (God forbid) be popular enough to warrant a decent-sized venue? Here in Edmonton, concert options are limited by what the band does. If they book a small or medium venue like the Starlite, you'll have to kill a guy for a ticket. If they're

performing a larger spot, like the Shaw, you get to see them in a static atmosphere. To recap: lame and more lame. Having two back-to-back gigs in the same place is also an option, but spending the night in the same city is rare and slows down a band's tour.

Edmonton's finally bringing in a healthy number of bands, but a new, mid-sized venue would attract even more acts and let you see them in a venue that complements their sound. It's not much to ask; something that bridges the gap between the Starlite and the Shaw, to give musical acts stuck in the middle a fair shot at winning an audience. Please?

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Spreading their motherly love

Mother Mother

With Yoko Casionos and Illfit Outfit
Friday, 2 March at 8pm
Velvet Underground

ALYSSA PANKIW
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Any mom would be hard-pressed to find something wrong with Ryan Guldemon. The lyricist and lead singer of the Vancouver-bred band Mother Mother, is polite, predictable and safe-sounding. All of his answers are by the book; his music, however, is not.

Guldemon's five piece, alt-rock band consists of four other classically trained and tame members: his sister Molly Guldemon (vocals), their friend Debra-Jean Creelman (vocals), as well as Jeremy Page (bass) and Kenton Loewen (drums). And while flawless three-part harmonies and intricate rhythms make up Mother Mother's second album *Touch Up*, a record that Canadians are ready to watch grow, revamping their first disc Mother has helped them elude constrictive musical definitions.

"I think it's fair to define us as post-modern pop, because our music still follows a pop format," Guldemon

explains. "There are short songs which are sort of hook driven and catchy, but I guess musically, it goes outside the box. It's not tame harmony. It pushes the envelope. I think pop music has devolved in a lot of ways.

"The pop music of the 1950s and '60s was a lot more sophisticated than mainstream pop today," Guldemon continues. "It's great that everyone's frustrated that everything seems to have been done. I think it inspires pop, rock and indie bands to be stylistically varied, to borrow from different genres and to make interesting fusions of music."

The musical amalgamation heard on *Touch Up* came from blending some original tracks from *Mother* with some brand new songs that carry the stamp of a rhythm section. With the help of each individual members' talents, voices sound more fleshed-out and poignant. Repetition runs rampant in their lyrics, and even their name showcases their signature reiteration.

"Maybe [our repetition] is just writer's block," Ryan admits. "Like, 'Aww, I like that—maybe I'll just repeat it over and over again.' The name thing, we were forced into that one. We were just

Mother, but there were other mothers, unfortunately. And instead of finding another word, maybe we're just lazy, but we just doubled it up. I actually like Mother Mother. I think it's kind of snappy."

At times, it seems as if their sharp sound might clash with their meek attitude towards fame and their laid-back mantra towards their progressive music, but Mother Mother's recent signing with Last Gang Records has motivated them to stay prolific.

And with this, Guldemon assures his productivity with words any mom would be proud of.

"Music is just a language, and the more you know how to speak it, theoretically, the more options you have," Guldemon says. "Some people like to believe that going to music school or learning about music in a meticulous way robs the music of creativity, spirit, soul or passion, but I think that if you have that spirit and soul and passion, then nothing is going to take it away. If you have that and learn a craft, then you're just going to have more tools to express yourself soulfully and passionately, and the style will go on in whatever direction it goes."

Signs point to Zodiac's success

Zodiac

Directed by David Fincher
Starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Chloe Sevigny, Anthony Edwards, Robert Downey Jr and Mark Ruffalo
Opens Friday, 2 March
Empire Theatres

RAMIN OSTAD
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Going into a film like *Zodiac*, it would be silly to expect your run-of-the-mill murder mystery. After all, it's based on one of the most intriguing serial killers in American history, The Zodiac Killer, who wreaked havoc in Northern California for ten months in the late 1960s. As one of the only unsolved cases of its kind, it has intrigued police for years. Though he only had five known victims, the Zodiac was best recognized for the cryptic messages he gave to newspapers written in coded ciphers and his obsession with Richard Connell's novel *The Most Dangerous Game*, where a Cossack nobleman hunts human beings for sport. With a resumé like that, a film about the Zodiac sounds pretty damn good.

But director David Fincher—who also directed *Se7en* and *Fight Club*—spends little time focusing on the actual killer. Instead, *Zodiac* is more about Robert Graysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal), a sober-since-birth cartoonist for the

San Francisco Chronicle, one of the four newspapers to receive the Zodiac's ciphers. The film follows Graysmith, co-worker and reporter Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr) and Inspector David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) as their obsessions with the Zodiac's case grows and forever changes their lives.

Gyllenhaal's portrayal of a naïve, innocent small-timer is spot on, and as his character's obsession develops, you begin to root for him more and more.

Although the trailers pegged *Zodiac* as a thriller, it's actually much more of a character study—a visceral and thorough look at what obsession can do to people. As intriguing as the killer is, he's portrayed as more of a set piece for the other characters to move around, and as the mystery begins to unravel, you never get the impression that the film is holding back details as a plot device.

Gyllenhaal's portrayal of a naïve, innocent small-timer is spot on, and as his character's obsession develops, you begin to root for him more and more. Ruffalo is also terrific, as his

character's fixation goes in the opposite direction, almost ending his career. The two actors have great chemistry together and their combined need to discover the Zodiac's identity comes across extremely well.

Robert Downey Jr is the only one who doesn't really seem to fit in the picture. Not only is his character underdeveloped—as the movie jumps ahead in the timeline, Avery becomes a drunk for no definite reason—but he's also slowly being typecast as the quirky jerk, which has gotten rather old. As his character progresses, he begins to be less and less relevant to the movie overall. For a film based on a true story, with characters based on real people, you would expect a little more detail into the actions of one of the key figures in the case's history.

Also, the film is a bit too long. A good quarter could be cut out without any real consequence, as well as few too many false endings that were pretty unnecessary. You should never fade to black for two full seconds unless the credits are about to role.

But despite those minor grievances, *Zodiac* is a great film that takes an intriguing perspective on one of the greatest criminal mysteries in American history. It's as speculative about the Zodiac as it's detailed about the suspects, providing great insight not only into the murderer, but also into the lives he affected.



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Edmonton Irish Film Fest counts its lucky charms

A few *Gateway* film critics grabbed a can of Guinness and reviewed some of Irish Film Fest movies showing at the Metro Cinema this weekend. Here are the results:

Breakfast On Pluto
Directed by Neil Jordan
Starring Cillian Murphy, Liam Neeson, Stephen Rea, Ruth Negga, Laurence Kinlan, Gavin Friday, Bryan Ferry and Brendan Gleeson
Plays Sunday, 4 March at 7pm
Metro Cinema

Poor Pluto. It never did anything wrong, and suddenly, it's no longer a planet. Okay, so all of this happened after the wonderful film *Breakfast On Pluto* was filmed, but that doesn't mean that the parallel isn't there between the little ex-planet and Patrick "Kitten" Braden.

Patrick is a foster child who's been abandoned by his mother and has no idea who his father is. As a little boy, he enjoys wearing dresses and makeup, behaviours that aren't exactly accepted in the small Irish-Catholic town where he grows up. He knows he's different, and only the other kids in the neighbourhood who are somehow "different" can identify with him and accept him. Perhaps because of this, it's heart-warming to watch the kids embrace one another, especially because few other people do. Patrick's friendships are portrayed beautifully throughout the film, especially his friendship with a young woman named Charlie (Ruth Negga).

Breakfast On Pluto is a captivating movie, telling the story of a transgendered individual trying to fit into a world that doesn't seem to have a place

for him. Cillian Murphy is terrific as Patrick, his large blue eyes expressive and vulnerable. The soundtrack, ranging from rock-and-roll to disco, is awesome, each song matching Braden's emotions to a T. One thing that doesn't really work in this film, though, is the very superficial portrayal of the fighting between the Irish nationalists and the English. The film illustrates the violence and bombings that occurred during the '60s and '70s, but unfortunately does little to integrate this subplot into the rest of the movie in a believable way.

In the end, *Breakfast On Pluto* reminds us that the desire to be loved is universal, even for those who are outside the norm. Just like poor Pluto.

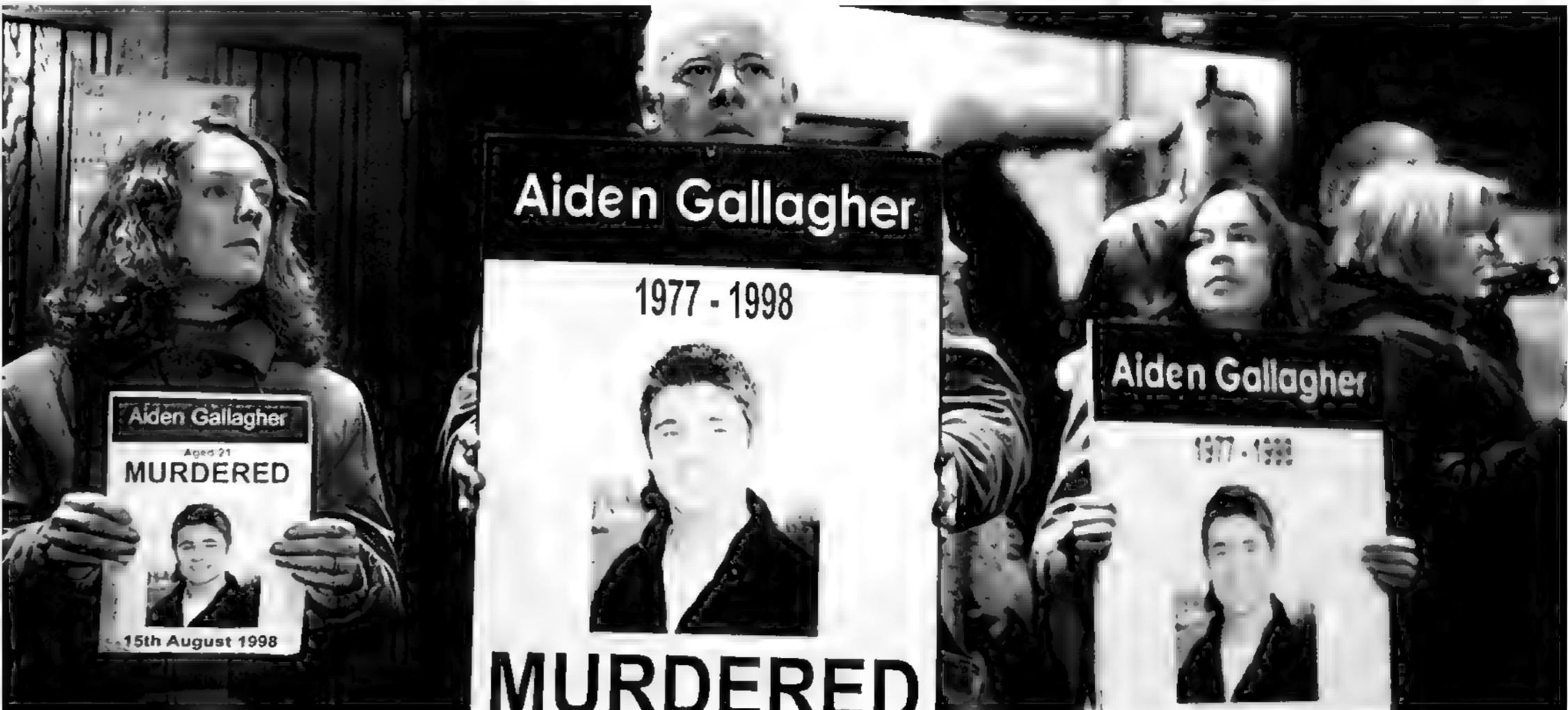
Maria Kotovych

Omagh

Directed by Pete Travis
Starring Gerard McSorley
Plays Saturday, 3 March at 9pm
Metro Cinema

On 15 August, 1998, a group calling themselves the Real IRA exploded a bomb on a crowded Omagh street in an attempt to halt the signing of the Good Friday Accord—which would end almost 30 years of sectarian violence in that region.

The film *Omagh* follows this event and the family of Michael Gallagher (Gerard McSorley) a mechanic whose son is killed in the bombing. The families of the victims become frustrated by the government's inability to bring the men behind the bombing to justice, and with Gallagher as their leader form the Omagh Support Group to try and find the truth behind



the death of their loved ones.

Omagh's director Pete Travis' portrayal of a grieving town provides a very thorough insight into the hardships of the victims' families. The first third of the movie is spent attempting to make the audience sympathize and understand this peaceful community. For the most part he succeeds, and while the film can be a little slow at times, the characters are all rich and passionate enough to keep watching. Gerard McSorley is brilliant in his role, as his character progresses from a shy griever to a passionate leader searching for closure.

But the heart of *Omagh* is the true-life story of a people who felt abandoned and betrayed by their government. The film brings up some interesting questions about fighting for peace and the lengths we should go to in order to maintain it, leaving your mind whirling long after the film is over.

Ramin Ostad

Beckett On Film: A Selection

Directors, cast varies
Plays Sunday, 4 March at 9pm

Somebody once had the idea to take every single one of Samuel Beckett's plays and adapt them for film, all while staying loyal to the original scripts. Then, somebody else had the idea to select just seven of the shorter films to create a collection called *Beckett On Film: A Selection*.

The first play selected for this collection is not-so-creatively entitled *Play*. But it's not at all fun and games. *Play* is cruelly stretched to 16 minutes by looping the same four minute sequence four times in a row. While quite interesting the first time round, it loses its novelty halfway during the second lap.

The next two, *Act Without Words I* and *Act Without Words II*, straddle the line between clever and pretentious. However, they're also poetic, inspired and truly wonderful examples

of Beckett's genius and unique style. In contrast, *Rough for Theater* is a lacklustre piece about a crippled man, and really, the story surrounding him isn't that astounding.

The next play, *Ohio Impromptu*, is artsy but in a way that will leave one seeing double. Highlighting Beckett's mastery of the written word, *Ohio Impromptu* also illustrates Beckett's expert use of stage and lighting directions in his scripts, while the 45-second *Breath* will leave you breathless—or screaming, "What. The. Fuck."

The last play, *Catastrophe*, is a sarcastic political commentary lost on everyone but Samuel Beckett himself, revealing the reality that Beckett's works are hit-or-miss in nature, and this selection of films proves it. So, while parts of the collection are original and provocative, bring your own entertainment for the other parts or be prepared to suffer.

Bryan Saunders

GFC COMMITTEES: STUDENTS NEEDED

The terms of office for students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) Standing Committees and Appeal Boards and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 2007.

Undergraduate and graduate students (except as noted) are encouraged to apply now to serve on any of the following committees for terms of office beginning May 1, 2007, and ending April 30, 2008. (Some students currently serving on these committees may be seeking re-election to serve additional terms.)

Committee	Student Vacancies	Meeting Times
ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC): GFC's senior committee dealing with academic, financial and planning issues	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	2:00 pm/2nd& 4th Wednesdays
ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE (ASC): GFC committee dealing with admissions, academic standing, transfer and examination policies and other related issues	ONE undergraduate	9:00 am/3rd Thursday
CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLRC): Reviews Code of Student Behaviour, Code of Applicant Behaviour and Residence Community Standards	TWO STUDENTS (undergraduate and/or graduate)	9:30 am/4th Thursday
COMMITTEE ON THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT (CLE): Promotes an optimal learning environment in alignment with guiding documents of the University of Alberta	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	2:00 pm/1st Wednesday
FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC): Recommends on planning and use of facilities, proposed buildings and parking and transportation facilities	ONE undergraduate	9:00 am/3rd Friday
UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (UASC): Approves new awards for undergraduate students including selection and eligibility criteria	TWO undergraduates	2:00 pm/2nd Tuesday in October, January, March and June
UNIVERSITY TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC): Adjudicates the Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the William Hardy Alexander Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and the Teaching Unit Award	TWO undergraduates & ONE graduate	Normally three times a year (October, March and May)
ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) / UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB): AAC hears and decides appeals regarding academic standing. UAB hears and decides appeals regarding disciplinary decisions of the Discipline Officer and/or Dean as made under the Code of Student Behaviour	AAC: THREE undergraduates & TWO graduates UAB: NINE undergraduates & FOUR graduates	Hearings are normally scheduled from 4:30 pm onward and last from 3-5 hours. Student members normally participate in 1-3 hearings in a calendar year, therefore some evening flexibility over the calendar year is needed (including summer months). Training is provided.
COUNCIL ON STUDENT AFFAIRS (COSA): The aim of the Council is the betterment of the quality of student life at the University of Alberta	ONE undergraduate & ONE graduate	Afternoons/normally 3rd Monday (September to March)

Application forms and committee information are available on the University Governance website: <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/secretariat/>, or in Room 2-5 University Hall. Applications should be completed and returned to the University Governance by **Wednesday, March 7, 2007**. For information regarding committee membership and terms of reference, students are invited to contact: Ms Vanessa Ogilvy, Secretary to the GFC Nominating Committee (NC), at 492-4715, or by e-mail: vanessa.ogilvy@ualberta.ca.

NOTE: There is ONE STUDENT VACANCY on the GFC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for an undergraduate student who is a GFC member. Expressions of interest should be directed to Mr. Garry Bodnar, garry.bodnar@ualberta.ca Secretary to the GFC Replenishment Committee, University Governance.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF & PUBLISHER

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the position of Editor-in-Chief and Publisher for the 2007/2008 publishing year. The term runs from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008 and pays \$1859.40/mo*. Applicants must plan to be enrolled at the U of A in at least one class per semester for the 2006/2007 school year; must be available to work varying hours; must have computer and layout skills; and will preferably have been a *Gateway* editor, or possess equivalent leadership and editorial experience.** Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and a portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 2 March 2007**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

LINE EDITORS

The *Gateway* is accepting applications for the following line editor positions** for the 2007/2008 publishing year:

MANAGING EDITOR
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR
DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR
OPINION EDITOR
SPORTS EDITOR
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR
PHOTO EDITOR
DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2007 to 30 April 2008. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Six issues of the *Gateway* will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least three of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$1549.50* per month; all other line editors will receive \$1222.00* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resumé and portfolio to **Gateway Business Manager (Steve Smith, 492-6669, biz@gateway.ualberta.ca) by noon on Friday, 9 March 2007**. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

* Pay will be adjusted for CPI over the summer and may increase
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FILE PHOTO: ANDREW RURAK

SETTING THE PACE Third-year setter Daryll Roper (1) is one of the Pandas' on-court leaders.



KIM SMITH

WITHIN REACH The Golden Bears have a National Title within their grasp—if they stop slumping.

Volley squads gunning for National gold

Top-ranked Pandas unconcerned over lack of playoff experience

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

Pandas volleyball captain Wendy Linnell barely had a moment to catch her breath last weekend. After helping the Alberta volleyballers win Canada West gold, Linnell rushed off to the Canada West track championships, also being held at the University of Manitoba, where she qualified for Nationals in the Triple Jump event.

"It was definitely extra stress having to be in Canada West finals for both volleyball and track," she said. "The schedule turned out being pretty conducive to preparing appropriately for both sports; it was just a little bit hard preparing for a full day for our volleyball match and then heading straight to a track competition."

While her focus was divided in last weekend between two varsity sports, Linnell has her sights set on volleyball this weekend as the Pandas head into the National Finals in Calgary. Their Canada West gold medal earned them a first place ranking going into the tournament, but head coach Laurie Eisler is quick to point out that the ranking doesn't mean much.

"Why is it a good thing to be ranked number one? You get to decide what practice time you want; you get to pick the uniform colour, but those are probably the only advantages," Eisler laughed. "The seedings are just a number. I don't think we're naïve enough to think that being number one means it's going to be easier for us—it's a huge challenge. Really what it means is that we won going in and it's always better to be winning going in than to try and recover from a loss."

While Eisler wasn't putting much stock in a top seed, Linnell felt it was a completion of the team's goals for the season.

"This is where we want to be. All season we've been trying to get to be number one coming into Nationals," Linnell said. "There will be pressure,

but we've dealt with pressure throughout the season and every other team's got pressure so I think we're happy being where we are."

Alberta is a young team this year, and when veterans Janna Konihowski, Tawana Wardlaw and Kristin Van Eck graduated last season, the squad was left with no fifth-year players. While the 2006/07 edition of the Pandas is more youthful than previous years, Eisler noted that Linnell and other Pandas have stepped up to fill the leadership void.

"Wendy is very much the leader of the team in every aspect, but on the court, we have leadership from Daryll Roper, Tiffany Dodds and Jocelyn Blair; I would be remiss if I singled them out because it's a real collective leadership on this team—it's different people contributing in different ways," she said.

Eisler added that she's not discouraged by the fact that other teams at Nationals may have more experienced players.

"Sometimes the fifth-year thing can come back to bite you because it's harder for them because of the urgency of it being their last chance," she said. "The first championship we won, we didn't have any fifth-year players on the team—very similar to the makeup of this team."

For a team heading into Nationals this weekend as the favourite, the Pandas volleyball squad looked quite relaxed at Monday's practice. Players joked with each other and smiles abounded as they made some last minute preparations for the most important games of the season. Staying relaxed will be a key factor as the tournament begins.

"As a coach I can only control what I can control. If I'm freaking out, I can't really expect them to be calm and collected," Eisler said.

Alberta will play eighth-ranked St Mary's today at 5pm in Calgary's Jack Simpson Gymnasium. Semifinals will go tomorrow and the gold medal game will be broadcast live on The Score at 2:30pm on Saturday.

Bears bent on success after poor showing at Canada West finals

NICK FROST
Sports Staff

After a disappointing prelude at last weekend's Canada West Championships, which saw them finish fourth, the Golden Bears volleyball team (17-1 regular season; 0-2 playoffs) will seek out a reversal of fortune on the main stage, as they go for their first CIS Championship title in two years.

However, that goal—if recent playoff history is any sort of indication—doesn't appear to be one that the Bears would be able to coast to. Combined with last year's loss to Trinity Western in the CIS Finals, last week's losses to UBC and Winnipeg gave the Alberta program three straight playoff losses—despite coming into every one of those games as the top seed of the tournament. For the players, these recent failures and the redemption they seek as a result, are part of what's driving them towards the gold this weekend at the National Championships in Hamilton.

"We've talked about [last weekend's losses], and it's not like it's one of those things that's just in the past for us," Canada West Libero of the Year Justin Wong explained. "I'm pretty confident that we've learned from it, and we're going to come back hungrier; it's definitely something that can motivate you to play well and come with that little extra fire next game."

Focusing on their recent playoff woes, the Bears have also analyzed their play and reassessed what needs to be done in order to win this post-season. Head coach Terry Danyluk pointed out that there were specific areas of play in each of last week's games that caused their downfall: Thursday night's loss against UBC saw too many net touches; Saturday night's loss to Winnipeg saw the service game break down at times. The main focus, now, is addressing those problems by getting out onto the court in both practice and

game situations.


"I think the biggest thing is that the guys are anxious to get back out and play again," Danyluk said. "After last weekend, we had a couple of really close losses, and everybody knows that we could've done some things a little bit better; we've already talked about the things we could've done better. I just think the fact that we had a chance to face some adversity is a good thing. It just makes us more ready and makes us want to perform."

The challenge has become even greater for Alberta, though, as champions from other conferences—specifically, those in Ontario and Québec—are now added to the mix. The Bears, nevertheless, are prepared for anyone that comes their way—having played all but two of the eight teams involved, the Bears are fairly aware of what each of their opponents bring to the court.

"We've beaten Trinity Western twice [counting pre-season matches], UBC twice, and Winnipeg twice, as well as McMaster and Dalhousie in exhibition play," Danyluk noted. "This group has the potential to beat every team for the National Championship, but you have to go out there and do it. It's not just a matter of knowing that you could."

"We've seen all of these teams play and we know what they're capable of," Wong added. "But, we also know what we're capable of. We have to prepare to play for the weekend, and we still have an opportunity to win a championship, and that's the most important part."

The CIS Championships start Friday at McMaster University, with Alberta meeting its first opponent, the Dalhousie Tigers (18-1), at 6pm ET. The gold medal match will be broadcast live on The Score at 3:30pm ET on Saturday. That game more than likely won't feature the Bears and Trinity Western Spartans for the third consecutive year, as the two are poised to clash in Saturday's semifinal should they win their first-round games.



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PEER HEALTH EDUCATORS



FILE PHOTO: JOSH NAULT

HOPPING PAST OBSTACLES The Bears hope to jump into the Canada West final by beating UBC this weekend.

Past favours Bears in playoff battle versus Thunderbirds

TREVOR PHILLIPS
Sports Writer

Heading into the Mountain Division Final this weekend, the Bears have history and experience on their side.

When the puck drops Friday night between the Bears and the UBC Thunderbirds, it will mark the ninth-straight year in which Alberta has hosted the second round of the playoffs. In that span, Alberta has won every single series and gone on to win Canada West six of those times. On top of that, the Bears haven't lost a post-season game since 2004 and have not lost a home game to UBC since 21 November, 1998. According to assistant captain Ben Kilgour, playing at home in the playoffs is especially important this year with the high turnover on the roster.

"We don't have a lot of guys from the past, but there are a few guys that have been here before," he explained. "But we do have home-ice advantage, and it bodes well for us because we have been good at home, and we just need to come out and control the tempo."

With the success of the Bears program over the last decade comes a ton of experience. Alberta has six players on the roster shooting for their third

consecutive National Title and 15 players with playoff experience. On the other side of the rink, the T-Birds won their first playoff series in 36 years with their victory over Lethbridge last weekend. Bears head coach Eric Thurston understands how beneficial it is to have an edge in experience, but refuses to take UBC lightly for the same reason.

"This series is important for us because we need to be in the playoff mindset to win," he said. "UBC is coming out of a tight series, and we need that playoff savvy where we're scratching and clawing for every inch. We can't come out and go through the motions because if we do, it will be a sorry wake-up call."

The Bears seemed to be more concerned with coming out flat after a week of rest than with the hunger of their opponents. Though getting some extra rest is a bit old hat for this Bears squad, they know just how much momentum winning a series can be for a club, especially one like UBC that has been playing must-win games for the last few weeks.

"We had a really good week of practice, and we've been in this situation before," Kilgour said. "The thing about other teams is whether it's two games or three games, the winning team

always gains a little bit of momentum from winning."

Thurston believes that being mentally prepared is the key to success in a playoff setting and is confident his group is ready to compete.

"We've experienced this before. Usually coming off a bye there is a period to a period-and-a-half let down, but most of the time you are so excited to be in the playoffs that your emotion carries you through," he said.

Playing in control will be a huge factor in this weekend's contest. With the crackdown on obstruction calls all season long, a penalty in an important post-season game could have a big impact on the final result. Alberta has the second-worst penalty kill in the conference, so Thurston's bunch will be hard-pressed to stay out of the penalty box to maintain their impressive post-season win streak.

"UBC is a good team and to be successful we have to come ready to play. Discipline has to be the main focus," Thurston said. "We have to make sure we get back to stick-on-puck hockey and stay focused on the new rules."

The best-of-three series gets underway at Clare Drake Arena at 7:30pm on both Friday and Saturday night, and game three will be at 7pm on Sunday if necessary.

SPORTS SHORTS

by Paul Owen and Ryan Heise: poet

Pandas Basketball

"We've got to get one more," head coach Scott Edwards told me on Tuesday. "We'd better get one more."

One more win is all it will take to send the basketball Pandas to this year's National Championships in St. John's, Newfoundland. They will be hard-pressed to get one this weekend, however, as they compete in the Canada West Final Four along with Winnipeg, UBC and SFU. UBC and SFU are two of the five teams who have beaten Alberta this season, while the Pandas downed Winnipeg 84-77 in the Main Gym on 12 January.

Alberta's first matchup will be against the SFU Clan, who feature a pair of first-year posts from the Edmonton area—Kate Hole and Lauren Weigl. Edwards

hopes to make them regret leaving for Burnaby.

"They've got a couple local girls that it would have been great to get—hopefully we can show them what they're missing," he said.

The Pandas get underway at 8pm Pacific on Friday at UBC. Should they win, they'll face the winner of UBC/Winnipeg on Saturday; if they lose, they get the loser. The top three teams will advance to Nationals.

Edwards was also recognized this week as the Canada West Coach of the Year for his part in guiding the team to a 16-6 finish and the Central Division crown.

Wrestling

Anthony Kulak, Jarrett Wall, Samantha McKay and Jenna Yamashita will head to Saskatoon for the CIS Championships this weekend. Kulak, Wall and Yamashita booked their tickets with medals at the Canada West Championships two weeks ago, while McKay's fourth-place finish allowed her to go when the bronze

medallist pulled out due to injury. Kulak and Wall will be medal hopefuls for the Alberta squad, while the women may have a tough time finding the podium.

Pandas Hockey

Fifth-year forward Lindsay MacAlpine was named Canada West MVP. The assistant captain racked up 57 points to lead the country this year. Joining her as first-team conference all-stars were forward Tarin Podloski and defenceman Rayanne Reeve. Forward Jenna Barber, the conference's third leading scorer with 40 points, was named to the second team, and Taryn Barry was nominated as the Canada West candidate for the Marion Hilliard award for exemplifying leadership, team spirit and academic achievement.

Shorts Haiku

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Red-hot hockey Pandas host Bisons in CW final

TREVOR PHILLIPS
Sports Writer

Currently on a four-game winning streak—a stint that has seen them score 26 goals, grab three shutouts and sweep through round one of the Canada West playoffs—the puck Pandas will host the Manitoba Bisons in the conference final this weekend in an attempt to continue their winning ways.

Though all four of those wins came against the lowly, but post-season capable, UBC Thunderbirds, when a team can put up those kinds of offensive numbers it's a sign that everyone is on the same page.

"I have loved our intensity the last couple of days, and everybody has been increasing their level of play," Pandas head coach Howie Draper said. "I like where we are right now and heading into this weekend."

This increased team play has allowed the Pandas to display a more balanced attack and take some of the load off their top line of Lindsay McAlpine, Jenna Barber and Tarin Podloski.

"I can't think of a single player [who we expect to stand out]; I think everyone is ready to go this weekend," MacAlpine said. "We've had a really high energy week, and everyone has slipped into their roles really nicely."

"I've seen really good things from

everybody," Draper added.

One of the strengths of this year's Alberta squad has been the collective way in which they approach each game, yet certain players do get to benefit from the dominating way in which the Pandas win. Goaltender Holly Tarleton is working on a shutout streak that has reached 145:59; she hasn't allowed a puck past the goal line since the 2nd period of a game on 9 February. Another player benefiting from the Pandas hot streak is MacAlpine, who picked up seven points (five goals and two assists) in the weekend rout of the T-Birds and first star nods in both games. Alberta hasn't lost a home game since a pre-season match against the Western Women's Hockey League's Calgary Oval Extreme on 23 September, 2005, and they've won the Canada West Conference Championship for five straight seasons. Despite these amazing feats in Conference play, the players still understand how important it is to focus on this weekend's matchup and not get caught up in the feats of the past.

"This is a huge weekend for us," MacAlpine said. "We would love to go to Nationals as Canada West Champions. We have won Canada West for six straight seasons, so it's important for us, and it's our first goal in winning a National Championship."

Also in Alberta's favour this weekend



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

ROOFED The Pandas have been scoring in bunches and getting it from unlikely sources, like Amanda Small (11).

is a distinct home-ice advantage. Clare Drake Arena is an old facility, and the home team is treated much nicer than their opponents, who usually can't fit their entire team on the tiny visitors' bench. In addition, the ice conditions also play into the Pandas' hands.

"The rink guys are gonna hate me,

but the ice here is a little soft," Draper admitted. "But it helps us with our training, and I always thought, even as a player, that it made us quicker against our opponents when they came in here."

Even though the Pandas are already guaranteed a spot in the National

Championships, they will be looking to add another Conference banner to the crowded rafters at the Drake starting with the first game against Manitoba at 3pm on Friday afternoon. Game two will be at 3pm Saturday and the third game, if necessary, will be played at 3pm Sunday.



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Kevin Lowe broke my heart



NICK
FROST

Sports
Commentary

Basements are cold and lonesome, even with a used shot-glass and a half-empty bottle of Jack Daniels. But Tuesday I couldn't leave mine, opting instead to scour the Internet, searching for hope. Looking for a report that the Ryan Smyth deal wasn't filed with the NHL on time, or that it was actually Jason Smith who was traded—all the while trying not to spill whiskey on the keyboard. Despite it all, I can't help but replay the question that all Oiler fans must've asked themselves at 1:35pm on Tuesday afternoon: why, Kevin, why?

On the one hand, I can kind of understand Kevin Lowe's motivation for making this deal: Smyth was an impending free agent this summer who wasn't doing the whole "home-town discount" shtick since Fernando Pisani and Steve Staios got overpaid, and Edmonton hadn't yet signed him. He could've got his requested \$6-million overpayment from some other team, and left the Oilers with jack all.

It seems, though, that in the midst of deciphering that logic, Lowe has forgotten an important fact that everyone else seems to know: Ryan Smyth was the heart and soul of the Edmonton Oilers. Several reports have suggested that Smyth had expected that a deal would get done with Edmonton at some point—so why the itchy trigger finger? Sure, Lowe is going to have a huge wad of cash to play around with this summer, but where is he going to find a free agent with as much heart and passion for the Copper and Blue as Ryan Smyth? Don't tell me that Andrei Markov or Chris Phillips can fill the heart-and-soul role. Sure, they could maybe step in and be the difference-



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: LIZ DURDEN

WHERE THE TRADE BELONGS Oiler fans feel the Smyth trade is garbage.

making defenceman that the Oilers so sorely need—although, I even have my doubts about that—but there's absolutely no way they can replicate what Smyth was to the Oilers.

As much as I hate to sound like one of those preachy, fanboy-ish, armchair general managers, it seems to me that when market value for all players is high, you have the cap space, and when you have someone who means as much to a franchise as Ryan Smyth did to the Oilers, you fucking pay the man. No hockey player really deserves the type of money that they covet, but guys are going for ridiculous prices these days, and if you don't overpay to have one, some other schmuck will.

This should mean that the Oilers are in rebuilding mode—even though, they were never really in a position where we needed to hit the "rebuild" button. They were sniffing around ninth-place despite having a shitload of injuries—Moreau, Stoll, Pisani, Staios and even Smyth—and still have 18 games left, many of which are against divisional opponents that they could have narrowed the gap against. Instead we get to sit back and watch as the top prospects—including Russian exile Denis Grebeshkov, AHL healthy-scratch Rob Schremp, and Alexei Mikhnov on his third chance—take the reigns.

Speaking of prospects, Lowe did

manage to pick up a couple of good ones—apparently for the 2018 Stanley Cup run—in Robert Nilsson and Ryan O'Marra—assuming they haven't been run out of town by then. But Ryan Smyth is a beloved player, and to be the guys that he was traded for isn't a great position to be in. Just talk to Jimmy Carson about what it was like to replace Gretzky, or Bernie Nicholls about filling Mark Messier's skates. Better yet, talk to Joffrey Lupul about being the fan whipping-boy because he can't dominate opposing forwards and notch a point per game like Chris Pronger did. If Nilsson and O'Marra don't perform right away, they'll be scrutinized heavily and, quite possibly, will want to flee Edmonton.

As much as I try to figure it out, I just don't see why it was so necessary to make this move. What happened to you, Kevin Lowe? You used to be cool and bring us guys like Roloson at the deadline. We had the money, we didn't need the extra prospects or the extra first-rounder—which, like the other two in this year's weak-ass draft pool, will likely score us another Jesse Niinimäki—and there was still a chance to make eighth in the West. As much as it hurts to say it, Oiler fans had better get used to spending the next few years in the cold, lonesome basement of the Western Conference.

Smyth trade proves Lowe's gutless



TREVOR
PHILLIPS

Sports
Commentary

Will somebody please turn off the reruns because I'm getting sick of seeing the same thing happen to the Oilers over and over. Losing franchise guys, whether it be in the off-season or at the deadline, seems to be a calling card for this team. Coffey in '87, Gretzky in '88, Messier in '91, Cujo in '98, Buchberger in '99—there's a laundry list of lovable players that have come and gone from Oil Country over the years, each with different, but admirable, accomplishments: trophies, goals, Cups and upsets. All of these players contributed something important to Edmonton, and they all have something else in common: they left.

Now, I know that the early '90s fire sale was an economic one, and the moves since can all be linked to the financial state of the team during the NHL's big-spending days of the late '90s. But, that doesn't explain the recent influx of players leaving this little river town for bigger and better things. Well I'll tell you why: Kevin Lowe is a wuss.

There I said it. Kevin Lowe—the boy on the bus, Mr Conservative—is the NHL's whipping boy. Even his nickname—"K-Low"—is *sans cojones*; I want my GM to be nicknamed "the giant-testicled bull," or something. This pushover mentality is the only explanation for why he keeps selling off the best Oilers for dick all.

His track record includes constant contract holdouts at the beginning of the year: Doug Weight, Mike Comrie and Ryan Smyth are the highest profile. That suggests Lowe is unable to sign players until the latest possible moment. There are the big deadline deals to unload players whose salaries are going to rise: Bill Guerin, Jason Arnott, even Anson Carter. Rival GM's pickpocket the Oilers' veteran talent while Lowe leaves his wallet open on the table. And let's not forget the great migration of '06, where names like Jaroslav Spacek, Radek Dvorak, Mike Peca and Sergei Samsonov all skipped town after a magical Stanley Cup run. Some players left because there wasn't the money to sign them; others left because when they wanted out. Kevin "I can't say No" Lowe let them. Guerin, Weight and Pronger all asked to get away, and Lowe punched their tickets to Boston, St Louis and Anaheim.

Every time there's been an ounce of discomfort from an Oiler, Lowe practically drives them to the airport. He

bargains from a position of desperation—because it would be a sin to let these guys stay here too long—and unloads the guy for a bag of pucks (or Joffrey Lupul) and a couple of picks.

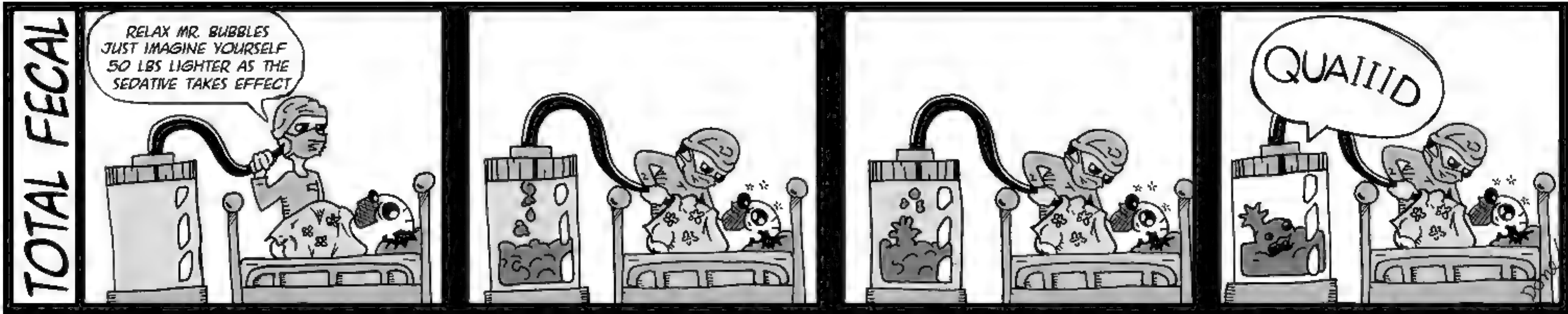
That Ryan Smyth is taking off to Long Island is Lowe's fault, and not just because he pulled the trigger on the deal. Instead of signing his best player and the only local hero left this summer, Lowe elected to leave negotiations for the season, but reward lesser players with large contract extensions. When Steve Staios, Ethan Moreau and even Fernando Pisani got their paycheques last fall, Lowe neglected to throw any of that money at Smyth, who went out and scored goals at a torrid pace and priced himself out of the Oilers' budget. It's not like Lowe gave Smyth any reason to want to stay: he low-balled him with his first contract offer and did nothing to improve a floundering team, even as Smyth put up a career year when Edmonton needed it the most. Hell, Lowe didn't even come out Tuesday night for the Messier ceremony in fear of the fans' reaction.

Kevin Lowe clearly doesn't have enough fortitude to run an NHL hockey club. Maybe it's time the Edmonton Investors Group thought about letting the boys off the bus and started over again, preferably without ex-Oilers. Next stop, retirement.

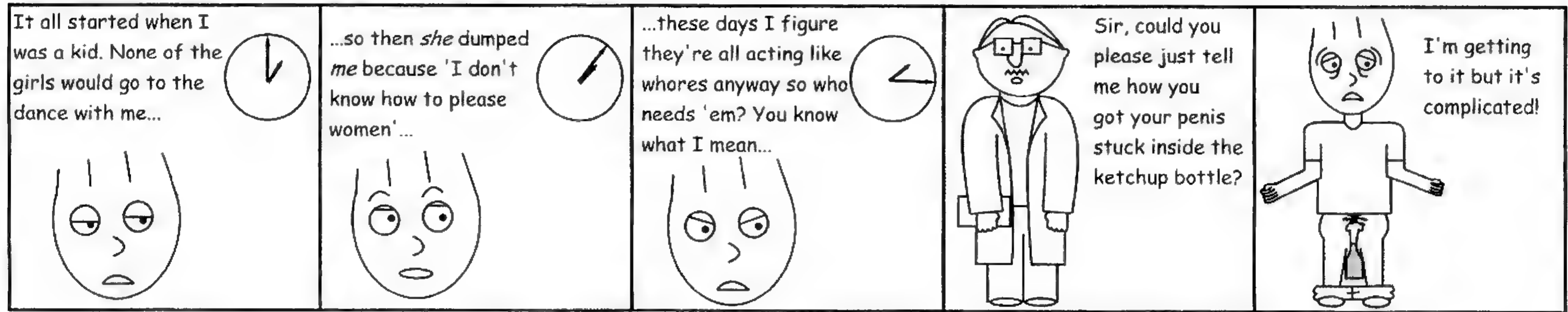
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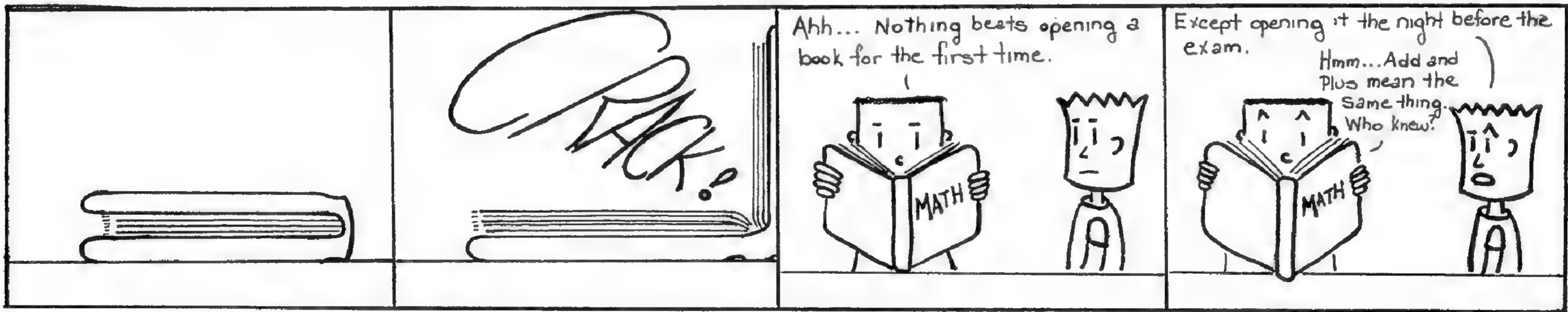
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EWE OF A by Norman Lau



U OF WHO by Matt Lui



DEMOCROBOT: GENESIS by Mike Kendrick





Newspaper.



Without the paper.

After months of design work, consultation and complicated technobabble, the Internet tubes have been greased in preparation for the launch of thegatewayonline.ca. We may be 97 years old and counting, but as far as the Web knows, we're sleek, sexy and *totally* Web 2.0.

Internetland has been dealing out a vicious shit-kicking to print journalism for quite a while now. With print readership in decline almost uniformly across North America, large dailies are beginning to feel the hit in both subscriptions and advertising revenue. With CanWest's ill-fated *Dose* magazine, we saw an attempt to port the sexy nature of the Web into a daily print form; but, despite millions of dollars burned, *Dose* folded in little over a year.

Indeed, the *New York Times'* online readership has just surpassed its print following. The *Wall Street Journal* just released an innovative new design, moving its daily news coverage online, and filling its trimmed pages with more detailed commentary and analysis. And the *Los Angeles Times* recently revamped its entire newsroom, dissolving the line between print reporters and their online counterparts.

Our new website is the precise kick-start the *Gateway* needs to enter this limitless information super-party. With RSS, commenting, photo galleries, and inter-linked, dynamic articles, we're all set to slide at hyperspeed through the tubes that bring the news to you when you're too lazy to put on your pants and go to class on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The *Gateway's* aim over the next few years will be to balance up-to-the-minute coverage with in-depth and (hopefully) insightful commentary and feature work. Much of this is already at work in the pages of our paper: this year we've aimed to make our design sexier and our coverage more comprehensive, all while faithfully delivering the University's twice-weekly quotient of dick jokes and insensitive humour. But now we've reached the brink. It's kind of like our old website was *2001: A Space Odyssey's* David Bowman, just before he gets transformed into the Nietzschean Star Child. You could say that we're giving birth to a new form of awesome.

Welcome to the future, my friends. We're fucking shit up, newspaper-style.

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Student Caring Program is hiring Work on campus \$11 per hour (min 10.5 hr/week) To apply or for info e-mail scpsuper@ua.bertha.ca

Part-time receptionist required. University area Sports Clinic looking for energetic individual to fill immediate opening. Position offers campus location, flexible hours and competitive wages. Applicants must possess excellent communication and customer service skills. Phys Ed, Kinesiology or Physiology background and previous reception experience are assets, but not required. Summer and no-day availability required. E-mail cover letter, resume and hours of availability to kristens@rivervalley.net.na.com.

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Career and Placement Services (CaPS) is now accepting applications for Peer Educators for the 2007-2008 academic year. \$12/hour. Work around your class schedule. Application deadline: 23 March, 2007. Details available at CaPS (2-100 S.C.B.) and on the web at www.ua.bertha.ca/caps.

Do you love working with children? Our out-of-school care is hiring enthusiastic staff (morning and/or afternoon shifts) for late April through 30 June. Two blocks from campus. Competitive wages. 439-1456

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Cultura Connections Institute The Learning Exchange is looking for volunteers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) to adult newcomers to Canada. Orientation and training is provided. Morning, afternoon, and evening shifts available. Call 944-0792.

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EVENT-O-TRON 3000

In celebration of International Women's Day, **Oxfam Canada** invites you to "Out of the Margins, Into the Fray." Thelma Chalifoux and Asma Sai share stories of women's struggles for social justice. Honourable Senator Thelma Chalifoux is Canada's first Aboriginal woman and first Metis senator. Asma Sai was formerly an Afghan refugee, but now works with refugee and immigrant women. The night also features the soulful music of Laurelle. Monday, 5 March, 2007 at 7:30pm. Remedy Cafe, upstairs: 8631 109st. Light snacks provided. For more info, contact edmontonvolunteers@oxfam.ca.

THE GATEWAY

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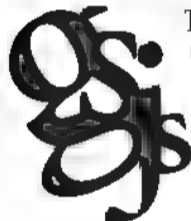
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colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Jmax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images. Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files. All content is printed directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENCE, Joanna, Kepler, and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper and we love her dearly, though not in that way. The Gateway's games of choice are Portal, Tetris, and Robot Dress-Up.

contributors

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Definitions of cheating activities vary

Student OmbudService senior advisor says most students caught cheating didn't know their activities went against the Code of Academic Integrity

CHEATING ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I don't think the [Maclean's] article was sensational. I think it presented a very troubling reality," Gulli said, adding that the fact that most students don't engage in acts of serious cheating and plagiarism doesn't eliminate the fact that it's still taking place in some form.

"There seems to be a popular idea that some cheating is more right or wrong than other kinds of cheating, and I think that's part of the problem—that we're not recognizing that it's all unacceptable," Gulli said.

Here at the U of A, most students who do land in violation of the Code of Academic Integrity aren't aware of the offences they've committed, explained Natalie Sharpe, Student OmbudService senior advisor and university director.

"For the most part, when students commit plagiarism and it's quite clear they just really haven't been paying attention or haven't been learning this stuff," Sharpe wrote via e-mail.

Chris Hackett, who works as a graduate ombudsperson and provides neutral confidential third-party advice to U of A students charged with academic offences such as cheating, plagiarism or misrepresentation of fact, also echoed Sharpe's assertion that plagiarism and

cheating aren't common premeditated offences on campus.

"I didn't find [the Maclean's article] really credible on the surface and it certainly doesn't reflect our experience," Hackett said.

Gulli, however, said that the article presented a reality that may be uncomfortable to face.

"Our experience is that students are likely to get caught."

CHRIS HACKETT,
GRADUATE OMBUDSPERSON

"If people have problems with the Guelph study that we cited, the article has countless other studies that go on to explain just what's going on at our universities," she said.

But Berkes was concerned with publicity of the study's results, as it could send the wrong message to students.

"One of the big motivators for cheating would be that students think everyone else is cheating," Berkes explained. "And so these statistics, which are somewhat misleading—50 per cent of students cheat—just perpetuates the problem. Students

think, 'Oh everyone's cheating, I have to too.'"

According to Acting Associate Dean of Arts Ralieg Whiting, who deals with all matters of academic integrity brought forward by Arts professors or TAs, every effort is being made to educate both U of A students and faculty on what violates academic integrity.

Whiting further pointed to the widespread use of the Internet as one of the leading aggravates of cheating and plagiarism.

"In the old days, you actually had to go get a book out and read it and then type out and copy it; with the Internet it's possible to download, either a whole mysterious paper from a paper mill or to download wholesale sections from another Wikipedia article," Whiting said.

However, Hackett stressed that the Internet helps catch cheaters as much as it may help create them.

"Our experience is that students are likely to get caught," Hackett said. "And, truthfully, my suspicion is that modern digital materials have made it more likely that people get caught. I think it was harder in the old days to catch students because you had to go to the library and dig through for the book that they copied from."

CAMPUS
CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Mike Otto

STICKIN' IT TO THE MAN, MAN

At 10:20pm on 12 February, ne'er-do-wells were witnessed using illegal drugs and writing disparaging comments about Campus Security in a stairwell at 9005-112 Street. The suspects were located a short time later in another nearby stairwell; when questioned, they admitted to penning the inked invectives.

No members of the group were U of A students and the whole lot was trespassing from campus. Edmonton Police later charged one female with mischief under \$5000.

A HARD CRIME TO STOMACH

At 11:20am on 23 February, a business in HUB reported that a man stole a drink from a cooler and continued walking down the mall.

Campus 5-0 found a male matching the description of the brazen beverage burglar a short time later talking on a pay phone. He was known to Campus Security and had been sent from campus previously.

Campus Security charged him with trespassing and he will appear in court at a later date. A small amount of the stolen property was returned to the business, but the remainder was presumably unrecoverable.

STREETERS

To the outrage of many Edmontonians, Ryan Smyth was recently traded to the New York Islanders.

What do you think is the appropriate punishment for the man who perpetuated this heinous crime, Kevin Lowe?



Claire
Theaker-Brown
Design IV



Andrew Polibka
Design III



Brian Schlendert
Engineering I



Chris
Schafefacker
Philosophy II

I just learned about hockey this year. I'm winning my hockey pool, but Ryan Smyth seemed really good. We could throw some cold spaghetti noodles at [Kevin Lowe]. It's wet. And sticky, when properly cooked.

I think the Oilers realized that they're not going to make the playoffs this year, so they're not going to need Ryan Smyth, and they're looking ahead. I guess I am [soft on Kevin Lowe].

I'd trash him. I'd get rid of him very quickly, because you don't want somebody like that running your team. I'd can him or send him to the Rangers or something. We could replace him with Mark Messier, because if Mark Messier was the manager we could definitely talk to Ryan Smyth to get him back.

I don't really know, to be honest. I don't watch hockey. I guess we should tear his nose off and pee into his skull.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Krystina Sulatycki





PHIL HEAD

THE FRENCH CONNECTION Stéphane Dion says there is no reason the Federal Liberals cannot garner votes in Alberta.

Federal Liberals setting their sights on Albertan ridings

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Alberta may exist federally in a sea of Tory blue, but Stéphane Dion isn't conceding defeat. Hinting that an election is just around the corner, the leader of the federal Liberal Party was in Edmonton on Saturday, 24 February to let an intimate crowd of supporters know that his party was including the province in its campaign strategy.

"We don't know when the election will come, but let's assume it's a matter of weeks," Dion said, pointing to the fact that federal Finance Minister Jim Flaherty will deliver the nation's budget on 19 March. As the budget is a confidence bill, a failure to pass could force the minority government into an election.

"Some will say, 'Don't go in Alberta, focus on Toronto and the areas of the country where we have seats.' No, no. ... We want to think of our party as a national party, not the party only of some provinces, but of all the provinces," he added.

In the 2006 federal election, the Conservatives took all of Alberta's 28 seats with 65 per cent of the vote, while the 15 per cent of Albertans who voted Liberal were left without any Members of Parliament elected.

"I know it's difficult when we say we're a Liberal in Alberta; I know it's strange for many people. But don't look at [it] this way—look [to] the future," Dion said. "Don't look [at] the polls of the past and the results—each election starts from scratch. What you will have to face at the next election is not the same situation as the next one."

Despite the lack of Liberal MPs from Alberta, the Alberta Liberal Party is

alive in the province, with 15 of the provincial Legislature's 83 seats.

Bryant Lukes, a University of Alberta philosophy and political science student, pointed to Pierre Trudeau's legacy of the National Energy Program—which is still a sore spot for many Albertans—as pushing voters toward the Conservatives during federal elections. He opined that the provincial Liberals were "more right wing."

"I know it's difficult when we say we're a Liberal in Alberta; I know it's strange for many people. But don't look at [it] this way—look [to] the future."

**STÉPHANE DION,
FEDERAL LIBERAL PARTY LEADER**

Since the Liberal sponsorship scandal came to light, the leader of the Alberta Liberals, Kevin Taft, has worked to distance himself from the federal party.

"I think that Kevin Taft has a different responsibility, being a provincial Liberal, to sort of look after Alberta's interests," said Lukes, clad in a red-and-white Stéphane Dion T-shirt. "I don't really think we even have an idea of what an Alberta Liberal government might look like [were they ever to win a majority]—I think it's just something that we can imagine what it might be like."

Still, Dion was hopeful that Liberal representation in the Alberta Legislature would translate to support at the federal level.

"The fact that you have Liberal seats at the provincial level should be an inspiration for us to have Liberal seats at the federal level; it's possible, it's doable," Dion said. "A lot of the seats that we think are out of touch for us, completely too Conservative that we [don't] think to take them, we may have a big surprise."

However, some of the younger members of the crowd were skeptical of the Liberals' chances in Alberta, arguing that there are flaws in the first-past-the-post electoral system, which gives victory to the candidate with the most votes, but not necessarily the majority.

"We have this very small Liberal minority in Alberta that doesn't get a voice—it's all or nothing," said Duncan Taylor, President of the Young Liberals at the U of A.

"I think [first-past-the-post] is kind of back-dated," echoed Pablo Seto, a self-identified blue-Liberal who graduated from the U of A in 2005. "The problem with that system is that people get apathetic ... you don't vote anymore because you feel that your vote is useless."

He proposed reform to move to a system of mixed proportional representation that would see seat distribution reflect the popular vote, quelling the tendency for strategic voting and giving a voice to the minority.

"Even though all the seats were Conservative in the last [federal] election in Alberta, there's actually a lot of us who vote Liberal," Seto said.

Dion admitted that there were flaws in the current electoral system, but said it will have to do for now.

"[Electoral reform] will not be possible for the next election but after we may think to engage in debate in Canada," Dion said.

done for actually nursing the disease itself," said Dr Neil Eves, the lead author of the study. "Exercise and rehabilitation is one of the best ways of [increasing the lung capacity of COPD patients]. It slows down [the] progression of the disease."

The term COPD describes two lung diseases, chronic bronchitis and emphysema, that obstruct airflow within the body and interfere with normal breathing patterns. The diseases are primarily caused by smoking and symptoms include increased mucus and coughing.

The study on helium-hyperoxia was conducted by Eves, now an assistant professor at the University of Calgary, under U of A staff Dr Stuart Petersen and Dr Dick Jones. They administered

four different mixtures of gases to ten clinically stable men. Helium-hyperoxia results showed an exercise capacity double the results of using pure oxygen, which was the next most successful test. The pure oxygen allowed for a capacity double that found in room air.

Currently, COPD is the fourth leading cause of death in men and the fifth of women in Canada. Eight per cent of Canadians are believed to have the disease. The figures for the United States are similar.

"COPD has increased by 103 per cent in the US since 1970, which is far more than any other disease," Eves said, explaining that COPD can be treated but not cured.

Jennifer Huygen, News Writer

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NEWS BRIEF

LUNG DISEASE PATIENTS FIND RELIEF IN NEW HELIUM TREATMENT

Most famous for its ability to raise the pitch of your voice and help decorate gymnasiums with balloons, helium is now being applied in a clinical setting to make patients with lung disease breathe a little easier.

University of Alberta researchers have discovered that a gas mixture called helium-hyperoxia—40 per cent oxygen and 60 per cent helium—can increase the exercise capacity of patients suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) by up to 245 per cent.

"There's not a great deal that can be

VPSL candidate sees past WoW and antifreeze

RYAN HEISE
Online Coordinator

This year's offerings in most sections of Students' Union elections are pretty slim and Vice-President (Student Life) is no different. Fourth-year science student Christopher Le is running uncontested, save for the joke candidate Chubby Puff Ball. Still, we put Le through the obligatory gauntlet of questions.

1 The VPSL portfolio pertains to non-academic issues. What does this mean to you?

Christopher Le: First, I think dealing a lot with the campus community and the campus experience for students; the things that don't deal with the classroom and the textbooks and the lectures. Another part of it is dealing with the advocacy for the students; so representing students in matters that are non-academic in nature. For example, the biggest thing I see for this coming year is mandatory non-instructional fees. That's a lot of what I think will be taking up the VPSL portfolio, in addition to the campus environment experience.

2 In any given year, the VPSL needs to provide leadership in non-academic advocacy, services and programming. What would you bring to the table in each area?

Le: First, with non-academic advocacy, we really need to make sure we have student input and accountability regarding those mandatory non-instructional fees. The current VPSL, Omer Yusuf, has done a lot of really

good work bringing up those sorts of issues and starting a dialogue with certain groups. I guess part of the nature of these portfolios is that they're only one year, but I've talked with [Yusuf] and I've talked with a lot of different people and it's just something that I would like to continue and make sure that we have student input and an understanding of what's going on with these issues.

Regarding programming, I'm a product of some of this campus programming. I've been involved with Orientation, Week of Welcome, Anti-Freeze. I think, historically, the associate VPSL handles this sort of stuff so I will definitely be there to provide him with support and leadership. But programming, how we have it, is pretty good.

The last one, services, is a really important thing for the VPSL. The University is a large, research-intensive commuter campus. It can be very big and very daunting, and the Students' Union tries its best to provide services for the students. Really what I want to do is highlight student engagement. We have a lot of stuff available on campus. We have over 300 student groups—one of the largest amounts of all Canadian universities and it's something to be proud of. But sometimes students come and they're just, "Okay, I've got to go to school; I've got to start right away." And really what I hope to do is encourage that engagement. That's part of what I plan on doing behind the scenes, working with service directors and maybe even with faculty associations even though that's part of the [VP] Academic portfolio. Really, just help give them a bit of definition and a bit of structure and tell them that they can really reach out to students here.



MATT FREHNER

HE'S HAPPY IF YOU'RE HAPPY Would-be VPSL Chris Le says if students are enjoying campus life, he'd be doing his job.

3 This year, student space on campus has been a big issue. How would you like to see the University create more spaces and what would you do to help?

Le: Student space is one of those things that everyone wants, right? So it's definitely something that's really big and I know that there are talks underway right now just to evaluate how the issue of student space is going. It's definitely something that's needed and everyone is competing for the space. I really want to be able to provide that student input and say, "We need this."

The space is really necessary for people to come to get involved and get engaged. If they don't have the

space to relax, to study, to work, then people aren't going to want to be here and they aren't going to get involved on campus. So student space is really important to the broader student experience.

4 Aside from Week of Welcome and Anti-Freeze, VPSL is often looked at as the black sheep of executive positions. What would you do to try to change that perception?

Le: You're right; it's a bit tough being that those are the really high-profile events. Part of what I want to do is help promote student engagement. I'm not too sure how necessary it would be for me to have that face time, but what I'd

like to bring is that [underlying sense of campus community] forward; to have students want to be on campus and want to be a part of campus. That doesn't mean I have to be out there and in your face, "This is Chris Le! VPSL!" But as long as people are thinking, "Hey, it might be fun to get involved. I want to be part of campus," that would be enough for me.

5 You have 5 minutes to, in haiku form, let students know what you should be elected.

Le:
Join a student group
Bring down mandatory fees
Enjoy campus life.

gateway literary contest

categories:

- 1 Short Fiction (under 1500 words)
- 2 Really Short Fiction (under 150 words)
- 3 Haiku
- 4 Sonnet
- 5 Limerick
- 6 Photography

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This contest is open to any U of A student who can string a sentence together or snap a picture, and who isn't currently a *Gateway* volunteer. Winners will have their writing published, and we'll even throw in some fantastic prizes.

Entries will be judged on creativity and style. Submissions must be original, cannot have been published previously, and will not be considered if they are hateful in nature. Submit your entries to managing@gateway.ualberta.ca or bring them to 3-04 SUB by 4 March, 2007. Contestants may only enter once per category. Please include your name, program and year, and e-mail address. Unfortunately, entries will not be returned.

THE GATEWAY

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PICK ME, PICK ME Bryant Lukes (left) and Bobby Samuel are squaring off to represent students' academic issues.

VPA candidates want to help improve the student experience

JOHN KMECH
News Staff

In this year's Students' Union election, there are two candidates running for the position of Vice President (Academic): Bryant Lukes, and Bobby Samuel, current University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Society (UASUS) President.

1 What are the most crucial issues currently affecting the quality of undergraduate education?

Bryant Lukes: Tuition costs, definitely. There's a gap between the rich and the poor in the entire country and in the city, and we need to compensate for that in education. We need to make it so that people who can't afford education can get that education, and people who can afford it are still paying.

Bobby Samuel: I think the main one that we have to look at is teaching, essentially. Right now, there aren't really any major things to improve teaching. There's an idea to house the University Student Services in the Teaching-Learning Institute. But there's no concrete idea about teaching, about improving the undergraduate experience. Going back to my platform, the one thing I want to do to improve teaching here at the U of A. [For example], I think student evaluations are a good marker for how well professors are performing and able to convey various concepts about how well they teach to us. By using those student evaluations and instituting a minimum standard [for professors to score] four out of five, we would definitely see the level of teaching improve. Instead of us just going through the motions, the usual classroom stuff, we'd be more actively engaged and having an education that inspires us.

2 How should the University balance the focus on world-class research with the demands for better teaching from a growing student population?

Lukes: I think that we need to focus on undergraduate teaching and make sure that the young people growing up can be assimilated into society well. That's my number one priority. Not so much on the research side, but there are important issues that need to be addressed on the research side, like climate change.

Samuel: That's a very tough question. At the University's heart, there are two purposes: the creation of knowledge through research and the dissemination of knowledge through teaching. For that balance to be achieved, we have to start putting the focus back on teaching and on the undergraduate experience. I think one of the ways to do that is to start with the teaching portfolio. Another way we can reinvigorate the undergraduate experience is to start giving academic credit for involvement in student groups. Already Community Service Learning gives credit for those who volunteer—I think it's like 20 hours—over a semester. I think we [should] extend that, not just from the community groups that Community Service Learning selects, but also to student groups.

3 The Faculty of Arts recently removed math and science requirements from their admission policy. What are your thoughts on this and what other current enrolment issues need to be addressed?

Lukes: I think that the math and science requirements are a good thing for high school. I certainly enjoyed taking math and science courses in Grade 12. I think it was a good thing [the requirements] were there to begin with. I definitely don't agree with that move. As well, I am recommending that we implement mandatory climate change education as part of the curriculum.

Samuel: Math and science, I think, are very core concepts in developing a well-rounded student, especially when it comes to things such as sociology, where so much of it is math derived. Removing those options, at the same time, can be beneficial in that it opens doors for students to come to university. Those students who may not be that mathematically or scientifically inclined can still come and get a degree in the Faculty of Arts. Lower science options are limiting, but I think at the same time, they will benefit from that.

I guess with regards to the admissions policy as a whole, I think we need to take a step back and look at the faculty-to-student ratio. Right now, University-wide, it's 24-to-one, and speaking from my own experience as UASUS President, it was 20-to-one in the Faculty of Science. Compare that with ten years ago when it was like 13-

to-one. I think we need to address that prior to addressing enrolment. I think we need to possibly keep enrolment steady and start increasing the amount of professors on campus. Once again, I'd have to look at the population statistics and populations demographics to come up with a concrete answer, but I think what we have to start looking at is whether we should increase enrolment or whether we should be increasing the amount of professors before we start opening the flood gates and taking in as many students as possible.

4 In November, the University unveiled their Academic Plan for the next five years. What shortcomings did you see in the plan and how will you overcome them to best benefit students?

Lukes: I haven't seen the plan.


Samuel: One of the shortcomings for the Academic Plan is, once again, going back to teaching. There really isn't a plan—not just for teaching—but an overall plan for the undergraduate experience. Like I said before, to improve the undergraduate experience, I think we need to reward involvement by giving academic credit to student groups, we need to get serious about teaching and create that teaching-intensive culture just like the research-intensive culture we have available to us. Speaking on other stuff, I think we should be utilizing our technology more. I mean, it discusses a transformative organization in "Dare to Discover" and "Dare to Deliver," but in terms of actual concrete transformative organization, it doesn't mention technology in there and how it plays a part in our education. I think we should start using technology to enhance our education, to offer recordable and downloadable lectures over the Internet.

5 In five minutes or less, write a haiku that tells the student population why you should be elected.

Lukes:
The University
Is the future of you and
Everything else.

Samuel:
Bobby Samuel
Vote VP Academic
He is very nice!

GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS



Pandas Hockey Canada West Final vs. Manitoba Bisons

Friday & Saturday, March 2 & 3 @ 3:00pm
Sunday, March 4 @ 3:00pm *If necessary
Clare Drake Arena

Golden Bears Hockey Canada West Semi-Final vs. UBC Thunderbirds

Friday & Saturday, March 2 & 3 @ 7:30pm
Sunday, March 4 @ 7:00pm *If necessary
Clare Drake Arena

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STUDENTS' COUNCIL & GFC NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN

Nomination packages are now available for Students' Council and General Faculties Council. Students' Council is the highest governing body of the Students' Union, and General Faculties Council is the highest governing academic body of the University.

THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS ARE AVAILABLE:

Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics 2 SU Seats 2 GFC Seats	Native Studies 1 SU Seat 1 GFC Seat
Arts 8 SU Seats 8 GFC Seats	Nursing 2 SU Seats 2 GFC Seats
Business 3 SU Seats 3 GFC Seats	Open Studies 2 SU Seat
Education 4 SU Seats 4 GFC Seats	Physical Education and Recreation 1 SU Seat 1 GFC Seat
Engineering 5 SU Seats 4 GFC Seats	Pharmacy 1 SU Seat 1 GFC Seat
Law 1 SU Seat 1 GFC Seat	Faculte St. Jean 1 SU Seat 1 GFC Seat
Medicine and Dentistry 1 SU Seat 2 GFC Seats	Science 9 SU Seats 8 GFC Seats

To download a Nomination Package or find out more about these positions, please visit the Elections Website or the Chief Returning Officer (Room 3 – 02K SUB)

THE NOMINATION DEADLINE IS TUESDAY, MARCH 13 @ 17:00



vote

www.su.ualberta.ca/vote

NEWS BRIEF

NEW VP (RESEARCH) WANTS TO ENGAGE UNDERGRAD STUDENTS

The University of Alberta's new Vice President (Research) is confident that students will only reap the benefits of a research-focused campus.

Dr Lorne Babiuk will be leaving his post as CEO and director of the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) at the University of Saskatchewan to take over VP (Research) duties from the outgoing Dr Gary Kachanoski, a fellow University of Saskatchewan alum.

Babiuk, who takes up the post on 1 July, feels that he's a good fit with the current Administration at the U of A.

"[The U of A has] wonderful leadership in the President and the Provost. A lot of their philosophy was very similar to mine. It was just a great opportunity," he said.

He's also confident that U of A President Indra Samarasekera's request for more outside input into the VP (Research) portfolio is a positive move. This review allowed concerned individual from both within and outside the University community to express their wishes and concerns for the mandate of the VP (Research).

Babiuk is also concerned with better meeting the needs of students at the U of A. It's important, he argues, for students interested in research to be able to be involved in mentorship programs during the summer break. This exposure gives students the ability to determine how interested and invested they are in a research career.

"Not everybody's cut out to be a researcher," Babiuk said. "It's better you find that out earlier in your career rather than spending all the time getting your PhD and saying, 'Oh, I don't think I like this.'"

Regardless of a student's interest in pursuing this kind of career, Babiuk believes that all students will benefit when their professors are engaged in research.

"If [professors are] not in research, [they] will get the information from textbooks or from manuscripts, and often, textbooks are five years out of date by the time they're published. As students, you're getting current information by people that are engaged in research," he said.

Anna Johansen, News Writer

VPOF candidates have bigger plans for SU budget

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
JASKARAN SINGH
News Staff

1 What attracted you to the position of Vice-President (Operations and Finance)?

Eamonn Gamble: To tell you the truth, it was just [current VPOF] Chris Cunningham and the job he's been doing this year. I was on [the] Budget and Finance Committee with him, so I dealt with him all the time. It was kind of cool to see what he had to deal with on a day-to-day basis, and getting that kind of experience would be great towards going out to the real world and making something of myself, if I had an executive position on my resumé.

Jesse Hahn: That one is definitely an easy one to answer: my passion. There were lots of things that attracted me to [the position] and I really weighed them and I pined over the decision whether to run or not for a long time. The personal costs definitely outweigh the benefits so I like to think I'm doing it for the students and for campus. What attracted me to the position? Something about what I wanted to do when I grew up.

2 What is one major initiative you'd like to undertake as VPOF?

Gamble: I think the biggest thing is expanding the profitable businesses so we don't have to rely as heavily on student fees. To do that we're obviously going to have to do some renovations because the setup of SUB as it is right now doesn't really help out the Print Centre or the catering services. So there's definitely going to be some renovations needed.

Hahn: Definitely the reorganization of the Access Fund. I would like to incorporate it as a registered charity just to open up doors for other sources of revenue for it. I think it was a shame—I think it was necessary, but



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI (LEFT) & MATT FRHNER

DON'T JUST FLIP A COIN VPOF candidates want to convince you they deserve to be in charge of the SU's piggy bank.

also a shame—that the ten per cent was directed out of the endowment fund to meet the demand for students.

3 Are there any areas within the SU budget where you believe money is being misspent? Why?

Gamble: First of all, councillor remuneration, which was voted in a year-and-a-half ago or so, which I believe is ridiculous. It is budgeted for \$30 000 when if we wanted to raise SU fees by a couple of per cent, that's \$30 000 right there. Well, why don't we just stop paying ourselves when we're doing a volunteer position anyway? Other than that, I believe funding the Powerplant as it stands right now is a gross misuse of money. I believe that wasting \$1000 a day of students' money is a huge mistake, seeing as how the businesses are supposed to support student services rather than be the services themselves.

Hahn: Absolutely, utility costs. The University spent \$42 million on utility costs last year. They stated that it was the biggest detriment to their deficit. And with my environmental and economics background, with our

non-governmental organization background, that's what we advocate for is basically ways we can do things better, more efficiently, cheaper.

4 What are your plans to deal with the financial losses of the Powerplant?

Gamble: My plan would be to convert it into more study and relaxation space. Instead of having a coffee shop that we market ourselves, why not bring in a franchise coffee shop that's going to advertise for themselves and pay us rent at the same time? Something like a Second Cup or a Starbucks.

Hahn: Well, I have plans. I have lots of plans for the Powerplant. Such as, right now I've got to wait. I'd gotta wait to see what [Students'] Council has to say about the Powerplant. I mean, bottom line: Council decides. If Council decides to let the Powerplant go on for another year, then I have plans for it there. If Council decides to put a bullet between its ears and shut the Powerplant's doors or stop serving alcohol, then I think it would make great common space. That being said, I've mulled [it] over and it's in the

hands of the people right now. But once a decision is made, I'm going to go either way.

I got a really good strategy for the Powerplant. [But] I'm not going to be as naïve as to tell you that I can solve all the Powerplant's problems by myself. If it's going to be run like a bar then we need to hire somebody who has experience turning these things around and we really need to address the issues seriously. If it's going into common space, well we're just going to do what works best, consult with the VP (Student Life) and the VP (Academic) and see what's really going to benefit students the most.

5 In five minutes or less, write a haiku that tells the student population why you should be elected.

Gamble:

Eamon is the best
Finance is my nature strength
Vote for me, or else

Hahn:

Tuition is suck
What can we do better?
Vote for Jesse Hahn

ASK QUESTIONS GET ANSWERS GET INFORMED » ATTEND A FORUM

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27 | 5:00PM

LISTER HALL CAFETERIA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 | 12:30PM

CAMPUS ST. JEAN

THURSDAY, MARCH 1 | 12:30PM

SUB STAGE DEBATE #1

FRIDAY, MARCH 2 | 2:00PM

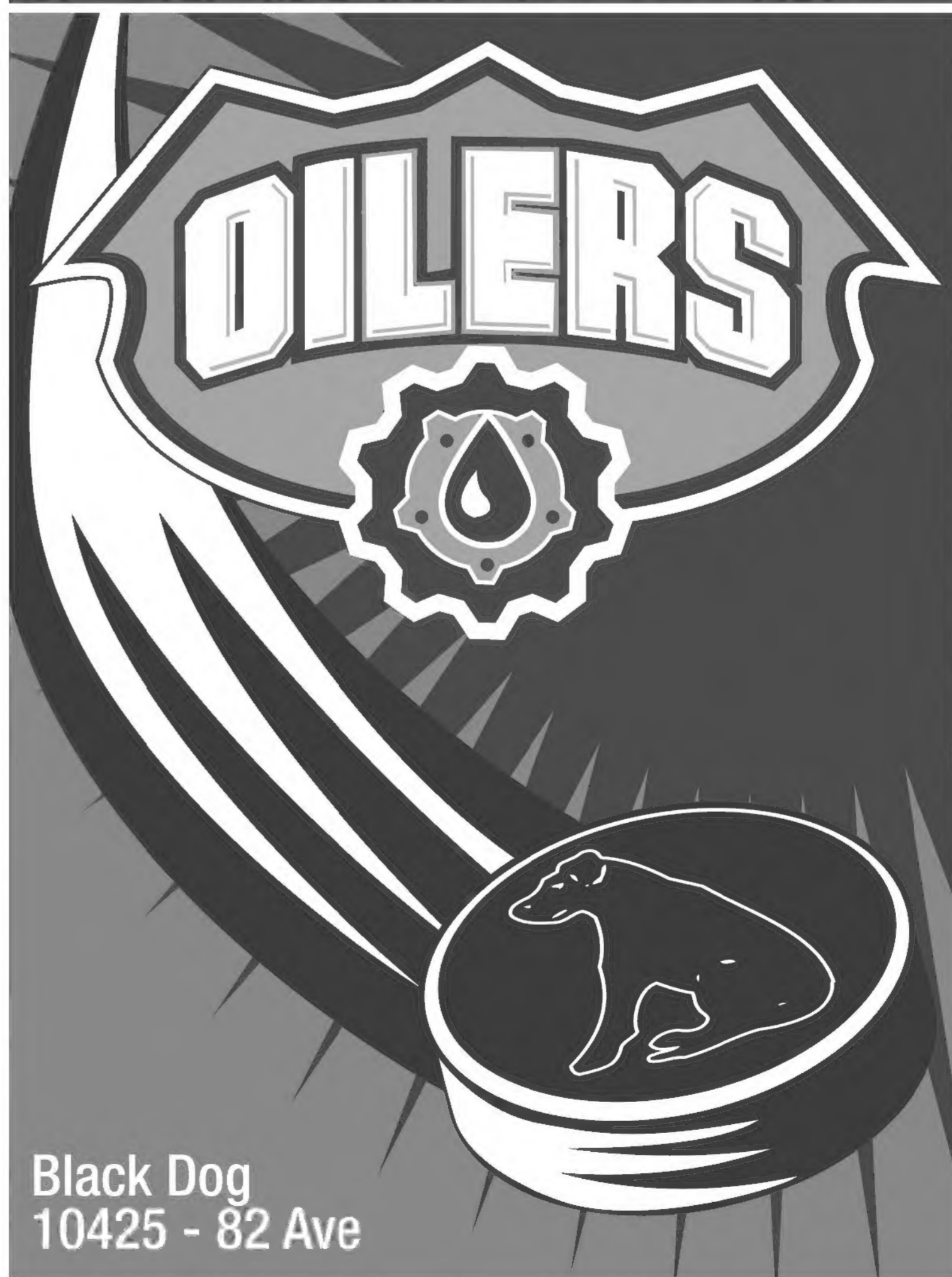
SUB STAGE DEBATE #2

MONDAY, MARCH 5 | 12:00PM

MYER HOROWITZ FORUM • CLASSES CANCELLED 12–1PM

ADVANCE POLL
MARCH 5TH, 302K SUB

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Memorial offers free tuition to student with best YouTube rant

New marketing scheme creators say it captures the Newfoundlander spirit

SHEENA GOODYEAR
The Muse

ST JOHN'S, NL (CUP)—Got a good rant? Then the Memorial University of Newfoundland is looking for you.

The St John's institution's latest recruitment ad features actor Mark O'Brien roaming around downtown St John's, ranting about the difficulties of choosing a university. The ad challenges viewers to out-rant O'Brien. Prospective students can send their own rants to the university for a chance to win a year's worth of free tuition.

The new campaign, "Rant like Rick," mirrors the popular rants of Newfoundland comedian Rick Mercer on his CBC show *The Rick Mercer Report*.

"We didn't really know what we wanted to do, we just knew the idea of somebody ranting about something was a place to start. Then we developed a campaign about it," said Michael Pickard, Memorial's associate director of marketing.

Pickard was one of the people behind last summer's controversial university re-branding, which was heavily criticized for removing the word "Newfoundland" from promotional materials, and the aesthetics of its new logo.

While the recruitment campaign centres on a prominent Newfoundland figure, Pickard says it's more about

local spirit. And while Mercer is on board with the campaign, viewers won't find him anywhere in the ads.

"I don't think it's about Rick Mercer, and we as a team have agreed that this is so much more about inviting self-expression," Pickard said.

Pickard says the target audience of 16- to 18-year-olds is hard to reach, which made it a challenge to choose where to air the ads.

"We didn't really know what we wanted to do, we just knew the idea of somebody ranting was a place to start. Then we developed a campaign about it."

**MICHAEL PICKARD,
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY**

The ads were launched on 2 February on popular video-sharing website YouTube, and in movie theatres in St John's, Halifax, Ottawa and Kingston, Ontario.

"One thing we know is teenagers still go to movies. They still go every bit as much, and so it's a cultural thing, so we knew we would be able to reach them," he said.

He also says the ad is filmed in YouTube style, and looks "almost

user-generated."

"If we created the typical pictures-of-the-buildings-friendly-faces-come-to-Memorial ad, and then put it on YouTube, it would be like, 'Come on, give me a break.' Anybody can put anything on YouTube, but this feels like something you'd see on YouTube," he said.

One comment on the site criticized the ad for being filmed off campus.

"Leave it to MUN to film a recruiting video away from campus. Axel [Meisen, MUN President] and friends should stop trying to make this place look hip. We are a university. Try selling the professional look," reads the comment by user Chayes85.

However, Pickard isn't bothered. "It's kind of ironic that that comment was there. The whole rant is about not showing your campus. [O'Brien] is talking about how universities typically show their smiling faces and their ivy-covered buildings and they focus on their location because it's in the middle of nowhere. In fact, we're saying we don't buy into that," Pickard said.

"These ads are about students making decisions, so they're really not supposed to be on-campus at all. We consciously took it off-campus. So that comment actually drove home the point."

The deadline for student rant submissions is 16 March. For more contest information, see www.mun.ca/rant/submit.

Social networking sites continue to challenge student election officials

PRECIOUS YUTANGCO
Excalibur

TORONTO (CUP)—Student election committees may have to review their policies to deal with new Internet technologies and social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook when it comes to campaigning.

The York Federation of Students (YFS) at York University hosts several groups on Facebook. However, while the official campaigning period for the YFS elections doesn't begin until 5 March, there had been speculation that some candidates began to campaign early by using Facebook—a practice scrutinized during last year's elections.

Last year, vice-president (external) candidate Shamini Selvatnam reported that an opponent, Tamar Tepper, was using Facebook to pre-campaign. And as a result, Tepper's party was penalized in accordance to the Elections Procedure Code and Guidelines.

Michael Landry, who ran alongside Tepper, explained all she said in her Facebook post was "I am running."

But, last year's YFS Chief Returning Officer Jeremy Salter considered the post a form of campaigning and said that it's distinctly defined in the out-lines as being against the rules.

Landry pointed out that sometimes it's hard to define what campaigning is.

"Before you start campaigning, you need to get 100 signatures," Landry said. "So, if you're getting these signatures from different people, obviously you have to tell them that you

are running for a position, but somehow that doesn't qualify as campaigning."

There are no clear guidelines written in York's candidate nomination packages regarding digital campaigning. While the rules state that campaigning is restricted to the allotted time period, it limits its discussion to poster while ignoring newer technologies such as Facebook.

"The CRO cannot babysit campaigning fully. But should act as someone to clarify and organize the rules and to make sure everyone is on the same page."

**ERICA HENDRY,
MOUNT ALLISON UNIVERSITY**

Similar situations have occurred in student elections on other Canadian campuses.

On 30 January, students from Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick, were surprised to be invited to join a handful of groups on Facebook. The sites belonged to candidates for the school's upcoming election and the nominees used the tool to encourage members to vote for them. The candidates also invited members of the school's Student Administrative Council (SAC) to join.

Sarah Smith, Chief Returning

Officer for the Mount Allison elections, considered the activities as campaigning outside the legal timeline allowed. After deliberations took place during a Council meeting on 7 February, it was determined that the candidates that were caught would suffer a \$50 decrease in funding, and have their legal campaign period reduced by 24 hours.

"It wasn't so much the use of Facebook so much as it was that the groups were created before the official beginning of campaigning," explained William Wolfe-Wylie, Editor-in-Chief of the Argosy, Mount Allison's student newspaper.

Erica Hendry, the current president of SAC, also pointed out that every nominee was given multiple resources to help them stay within the rules of campaigning.

"The CRO cannot babysit campaigning fully. But should act as someone to clarify and organize the rules and to make sure everyone is on the same page," she said.

Here at the University of Alberta, many candidates intending to run in this year's Students' Union elections created groups on Facebook announcing their political ambitions prior to the nomination deadline on 15 February.

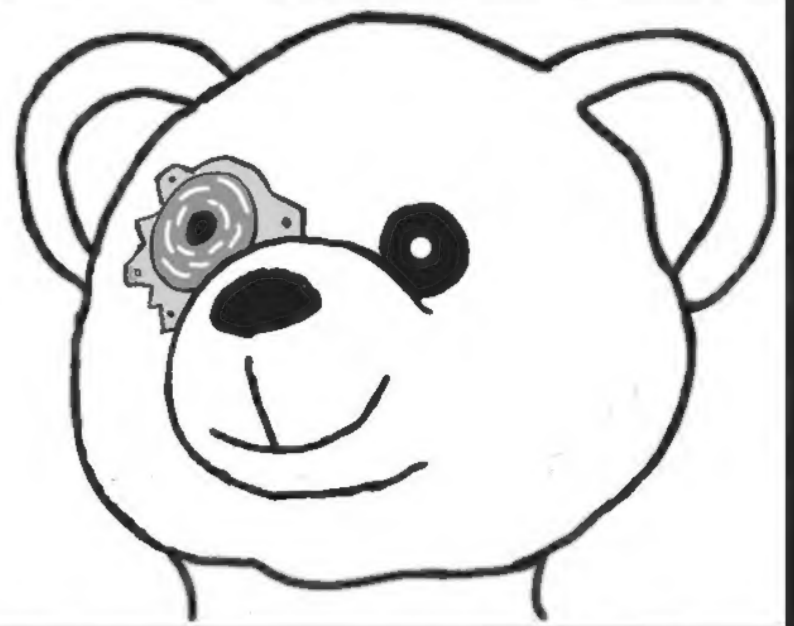
However, SU Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woynorowski wasn't against use of social networking sites. Woynorowski pointed to the positive side of Facebook saying she hoped that it helped candidates recruit volunteers and organize their campaigns.

With files from the Argosy

VOTE ROBOT

ON MARCH 7 AND 8
CHOOSE AN

**EFFECTIVE,
EFFICIENT,
EMOTION-FREE
SU PRESIDENT**



VOTE URSA MINOR

<http://arvp.org/voterobot>

FACT: Some sources estimate that around 1600 people are bitten annually by other human beings in New York City alone.

FACT: This year, there have been no human bites reported during *Gateway News* meetings, held Fridays at 3pm in 3-04 SUB



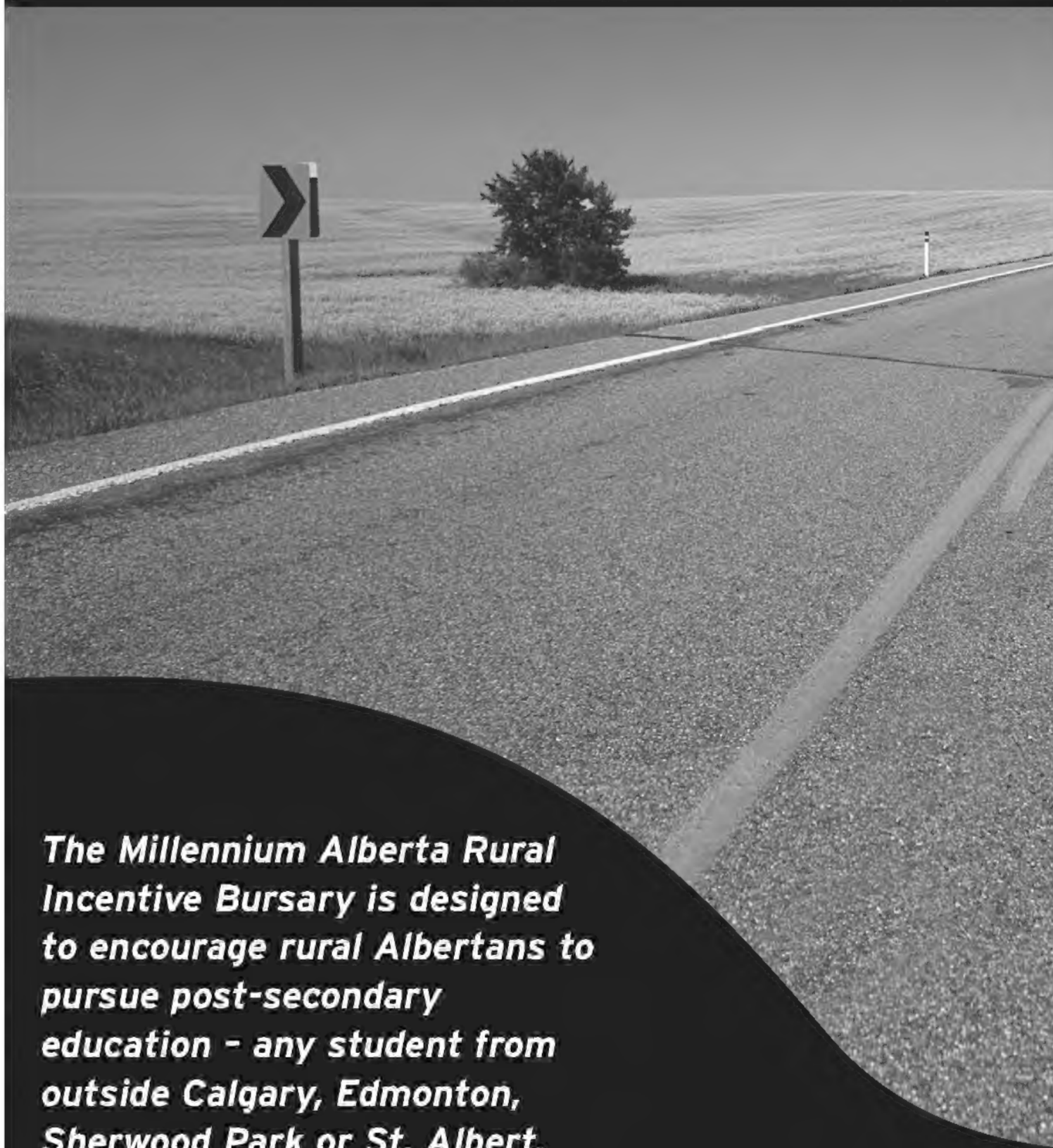
At *Gateway* volunteer parties, the numbers hover at about five bites annually.

We are aware of this problem and are working on it.

GATEWAY NEWS

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Find out if you're eligible:
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Volunteer Opportunities Boards & Committees



TERMS OF OFFICE: 1 MAY 2007 TO 30 APRIL 2008 (IN MOST CASES)

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, 12 MARCH, 2007, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS

SUBMIT COMPLETE PACKAGE TO 2-900 SUB

APPLICATION FORMS: AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLC INFO BOOTHS AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICES OR ONLINE AT WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA.

Important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

ACADEMIC RELATIONS GROUP

- Participate in activities raising student awareness of academic issues
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Academic on academic issues.
- Participates in workshops & seminars to improve teaching on campus
- Deals with activities relating to student awareness of academic issues

For further information contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 pm.

CAMPAIGN PLANNING AND ACTION COMMITTEE

- Assists and advises the Vice President External
- Is actively involved in planning and implementing SU campus campaigns and events

For further information contact the VP External David Cournoyer at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- Makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment, planning & implementation
- Major events-WOW & Antifreeze
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Omer Yusuf at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 PM

STUDENT LIFE ADVISORY BOARD

- Provides input on non-academic issues on campus
- Provides input on Student Services issues
- Major events WOW & Antifreeze
- Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life

For further information contact VP Student Life Omer Yusuf at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 PM

AWARDS SELECTION COMMITTEE

- Selects annual SU award winners
- Involved in numerous aspects of planning annual awards night

For further information contact the Executive Assistant Catherine van de Braak at 492-4241.
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 12

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Requires 1 undergraduate student
- To recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues in the University community

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm

ONECARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Requires 1 undergraduate student to provide valuable feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future ONEcard operations.

MEETS: At the call of the Chair

For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236.

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- Requires 3 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- The Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.

MEETS: Four times yearly

For further information contact the VP External Dave Cournoyer at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, after 5:00 pm.

FACULTY BASED INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE

- Requires 4 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
- Successful candidates should have an interest and basic knowledge of information/communication technology and/or campus computing environments.

For further information contact the VP Academic Amanda Henry at 492-4236
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 11, after 5:00 pm.

Personal emission credits don't cut it

FORGET GREENER LIVING: THERE'S NOW AN easier way to feel good about your relationship with Mother Earth: carbon emission trading. You can clear your carbon footprint—and your conscience—by paying someone else to make the world a little greener.

There are many companies who will take your money. A British company by the name of Climate Care, for example, will let you “offset [your] emission by funding sustainable energy projects.” A quick look at their website will tell you they promote energy-efficient lighting and wind power. For £110 (about \$250), you can get yourself a “climate-neutral wedding.” This method will also allow you to calculate and payoff your dwelling's energy consumption. Even the David Suzuki Foundation is catching on: they're buying credits from a Zurich-based company to offset emissions from their bus. Where does the money go? To projects such as solar-powered water heating in Eritrea.

But individuals aren't the only ones being cut some slack in the green rush: now the fishing industry can rest easy too. A recent study in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* has found that the health benefits from eating fish far outweigh the cancer risks posed by contaminants such as PCBs.

And thank goodness. Who are mercury, PCBs and dioxins to stand in the way of industry continuing on as is always has? Thank goodness we can't be forced into changing our water-polluting ways. So long as the fish are still healthy to eat, I'll still be munching on my Captain Highliner's, thank you very much.

Of course, there are skeptics. According to Oxford professor Steve Rayner, “These companies may be operating with the best will in the world, but they are doing so in settings where it's not really clear you can monitor and enforce their projects over time. What these companies are allowing people to do is carry on with their current behaviour with a clear conscience.” In other words, by trading carbon emissions you can keep driving your SUV, throw out your plastic cups and toss a bit of coin into the new clean, green industry without actually making a positive change.

There's no need for us to change our manner of living when we can just pay off the big boys to do whatever it is that they do for us, right? The way we do things is the way we've always done things. It's a tried and true method—so why should we change? I know I won't. Not so long as I can have my carbon-emitting fun-cake and eat it too.

But our actions *do* have an impact, and we can change our habits for the better—though I'm really not convinced that throwing money into the coffers of companies created specifically for the purpose of making us feel better is the answer. We might as well give the same money to an existing polluter so that it cleans up its act and decreases its impact on the earth. Sound crazy? So does paying some else to plant you a tree in a foreign country. At least this way we would be creating positive change within the existing infrastructure. One company lessening its impact on the environment with funds generated by a concerned populace could be the beginning of something great.

KRYSTINA SULATYCKI
Photo Editor

A whole new porpoise for whale blubber

WE'RE ON THE SHORE OF A NEW DEVELOPMENT in renewable energy. The Earthrace boat, a prototype high-speed watercraft that runs on bio-diesel, is the perfect fit for an oil-hungry North America, because it runs on the one thing that our society has in vast abundance: blubber. The boat, which is completing an “around the world” promotional tour, is able to run energy produced from the ass-fat pulled from liposuction. Even the captain of the boat is rumoured to have contributed to the cause. Considering North America's rising obesity rates, love affair with going under the knife and our energy-burning lifestyles, it's like a perfect match made at sea.

SCOTT LILWALL
Deputy News Editor

LETTERS

There's more to action than change

(Re: “It's going to take more than ‘action’ to bring about real change,” 13 February). I read Ms Hutter's article with great interest, in part because her analysis of direct action and activism was flawed. Proper advocacy requires diverse mechanisms to ensure many audiences are receiving your message. The Day of Action is one form of advocacy we decided to employ to unite students in a common message.

The Students' Union, though, is engaged in many forms of advocacy. Throughout the year we are in discussions with the provincial government, the Advanced Education Ministry and the opposition leaders on a regular basis bringing forward student concerns. We meet regularly with the Student Finance Board and advise [them] on financial aid issues and recommendations. This year we have begun a process of meeting with local community groups about postsecondary education; these groups range from the Alberta Chamber of Commerce to the Health Sciences Association of Alberta. We are also consistently engaged in rural Alberta by visiting such areas as Lloydminster, Peace River, Wetaskiwin and Grande Prairie—and that's just this year.

For years, the Students' Union avoided communicating to the public. Since we began communicating with the public, Albertans' opinions on the affordability for postsecondary education have shifted to the student position. This can be seen in the Alberta government's own numbers, where only 48 per cent of Albertans believe postsecondary is affordable. We are constantly engaged with diverse audiences to discuss postsecondary education and student issues. But every once in a while, to extend Ms Hutter's metaphor, we like to go back to our choir and reinvigorate our song.

SAMANTHA POWER
SU President

Car-driving crowd won't be pleased with 'Pass

(Re: “Students can't afford to pass this up,” 27 February). Saying that 81 per cent of UBC students used [their] U-Pass does not mean that it was useful for them. If a person uses their pass once or twice it does not make it worth spending an incredible amount of money when they could have bought a token for \$2 or \$3.

To say everyone will get a benefit is BS. Obviously 19 per cent of UBC students got absolutely no benefit from the pass. I think it's safe to say many more did not get their money's worth.

I have no use for a U-Pass and would get no use from it. Am I going to use it for the two-block walk to class? No. Maybe the five-block walk to the grocery store? Nope. Maybe the four-block walk to the gym or hockey rink? No, definitely not going to help me there, and not much good to get home from a night on Whyte Ave. Am I going to use it to go home and see my parents? No, I will get in my car and drive. Will I use

“Psst ... wanna buy a carbon credit?”



ADAM GAUMONT

it to get to hockey games across the city? No, I will drive. The only time I would ever use it is if when going to the one or two Oilers games that I go to each year there is only two of us going. Wow that is a great return for me, \$150 when I could just buy a few dollars' worth of tokens.

Don't try and get others to [subsidize] your costs when we are already living on a tight budget. Maybe you can help me out with my car insurance and parking costs, or the extra rent I pay to live close to campus to avoid commuting.

TRAVIS LIDSTONE
Law II

We can't afford not to

As a student at the University, [the] U-Pass seems too good to be true for students. First of all, the City of Edmonton is directly subsidizing students \$30 semester and the University is chipping in \$15 per semester. On top of that, you're getting a bus/LRT pass for \$18.25 a month compared to [\$54] a month. If I don't take transit, it reduces congestion on the road, frees up parking spaces and perhaps most importantly, reduces the amount of CO₂ emissions spewing into the air I breathe. Where's the catch?

DANIEL EGGERT
Economics III

Beware banning bottling behemoth

I'll start this off by saying it is unfortunate that the No side incurred a hefty fine that may or may not be justified (re: “Anti-Coke posters net \$900 fine,” 13 February). I however do not have the legal knowledge of other

Gateway letter writers and so I have no opinion on that matter.

What I do know is the Coca-Cola beverage agreement would provide an average \$524 377 annually, which is roughly \$15 a student. I worry that if the No side wins and the beverage agreement is broken that there will be very little change. Will companies providing vending machines swap Coke vending machines for Pepsi ones? Will food franchises that are providing Coke incur change over costs to stop providing Coke? Unless a deal can be made with Pepsi (which sounds ridiculous considering the costs) it would be a substantial loss for students.

I don't want to lose my \$15 to have a few Pepsi products in the stores and to have the option to purchase ethical products like Earth Water. For those wanting an ethical alternative to Coke on campus, go drink from your nearest drinking fountain.

STEVEN KALF
Computing Science IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

Furthermore, e-mails featuring excessive amounts of exclamation marks, all-caps, large font sizes and emoticons are liable to be ridiculed mercilessly by the editorial staff.

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Today's youth too young

During the past few weeks particularly, we have been hearing a great deal about the failure of student government at the U of A. May I have some of your so valuable space to discuss one of the suggestions that has been made regarding the cause of our sad condition—namely, the extreme youthfulness of the majority of our students.

Time was when 16-year-old Freshmen and Freshettes were rather rare specimens, and ... they did their best to become assimilated post haste into the older groups. And, whatever one may think of all college students, it will generally be admitted that the older ones have a greater responsibility—and is it not a sense of responsibility that is required to revive student activities? During the past few years, the average age of the Frosh has been decreasing considerably. The number of students around 16 years is now appallingly large, and, as a consequence our worthy University is beginning to look and feel like an overgrown high school.

The suggestion that has been put forward from time to time is that the age limit for entrance should be raised from 16 to, at least, 18. It is believed by a good many that such a move would be a good thing not only for the University, but for the students concerned. May I suggest that a discussion of this question would be in order—very much so.

“A READER”
16 February, 1928